

THE KING'S PICTURES
COUNTRY LIFE

NOVEMBER 1937

ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE



AUCTIONS

ALDRIDGES. Established 1753. **MESSRS. W. & S. FREEMAN, ALDRIDGES, LTD.** respectfully announce that they hold Sales of Furniture, Household effects and Objets d'Art in their Sale Room every Wednesday at 11 o'clock. On view the day prior and morning of the sale.

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NOVEMBER 11, 12—A very fine General Sale, strong in Great Britain, India and British Empire; also Continental Europe, notably Russia, with "Collections and Various." NOVEMBER 18, 19—Selections from the Exceptionally Fine "Fairbairn" British Empire Collection, containing many rarities, offered by order of Major M. J. H. Fairbairn, of London, S.W.1, with selected rarities, the properties of other owners.

NOVEMBER 25—Very Fine, Specialised Collections of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, including many rare and valuable pieces. Catalogues 6d, each Sale (November 18 19, 1-). Post free.

PHILLIPS, SON & NEALE at their Great Rooms, Blenstock House, Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, W.1, on Thursday, November 7 and following day; Thursday, November 14 and following day; and Thursday, November 21 and following day. By direction of the Rt. Hon. Lord Fairhaven, D.L., J.P., and Major the Hon. H. R. Broughton, the surplus furniture of the Mansion comprising Curtains, Eastern Carpets and Rugs, large collection of English decorative Porcelain and Pottery, Fine Bronzes, and Wall Lights in ormolu. Removed from "Park Close," Englefield Green; also from 37 Park Street, Mayfair; and the S.Y. Sapphite. Catalogues 6d, post free. Tel.: Mayfair 2242.

PUTTICK & SIMPSON, LTD. (Established in 1749), hold frequent Sales by Auction of Old Silver, Sheffield Plate, Jewellery, Old English Furniture, Porcelain and Pottery, Glass, Objects of Art, Engravings, Etchings, Colour Prints, Pictures, Drawings, Postage Stamps, Books, MSS., Old Violins, etc., at their Galleries, 72, New Bond Street, London, W.1. Tel.: MAYfair 6622.

PERSONAL

FURNISHED SUITE available in Gloucestershire country house, constant hot water, central heating; excellent food and service, country produce. Write Box 734.

OFFICER MERCANTILE ASSISTANT, on leave India, would give services on estate or farm for riding, hunting facilities. Car available. Box 721.

OWNER warm and pleasant Country House, Shropshire Worcester borders, desires married couple as paying guests. One or two bedrooms, own sitting room, 8/- gns. all found. Box 747.

PAYING GUESTS. Home offered couple in quiet country house, Suffolk. Every comfort, good fires, own hens, garden produce, fruit. Private sitting room, double bedroom, bath, 9 gns. inclusive. Box 746.

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YOUNG COUPLE require two presentable bachelors or a widower with children as paying guests; charming country house, 50 mins. Liverpool St. Station. Write Box 737.

MISCELLANEOUS

A SAFE INVESTMENT equal to a return of over 4 per cent. Sum of £25 up to £5,000 may be invested with the Maidenhead Building Society. Interest is paid at the rate of 2½ per cent. Income tax is paid by the Society. Further particulars from Secretary, Tudor House, 58, King Street, Maidenhead. Telephone 1277.

ANTIQUES. When in London call on Alexander Roshinsky, 77, Blandford Street, Baker Street, W.1, for Early English China. Also for Russian and other objets d'art.

ANTIQUES AND FURNISHING. A choice collection of Georgian Chairs, Easy Chairs, Dining Tables, Bureaux, Talboys, Chests, Persian Rugs, Mirrors, Ornamental China, Chinese Porcelain and Ivories, Cut Glass, Bronzes, etc. Inspection invited.—WILLIAM WILLETT, LTD., Sloane Square, S.W.1. Tel.: Sloane 8141.

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CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

2/- per line (min. 3 lines). Box fee 1/6.

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PORTRAITS painted from photographs, completely lifelike. Apply specimen brochure. Reasonable charge; approval.—Box 16.

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AWNINGS in gaily striped impregnated heavy Ducks, also SUNBLINDS and inside blinds. Delivery three weeks. Installed if desired. Garden Furniture and Umbrellas, Couch Hammocks, etc. Heavy wood White Painted Seats, also high quality Steel Furniture for hotels.—AVERYS, 81, Great Portland Street, W.1. Established 1834.

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SITUATIONS WANTED

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DACHSHUNDS, both coats: Corgis and Boxers.—MRS. RAYMOND DOWNING, Sandycroft, Stoke Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth. Tel. 1554.

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POODLES, well-bred healthy puppies. Apricot and browns, from 10 to 15 gns. Can be seen London.—MRS. JOAN STRAWSON, Park View, Hildenborough (3244), Kent.

VALUABLE Welsh Corgi (Cardigan) pups; best pedigree; 10 weeks old. Red, also black and tan; exceptionally promising. 10 gns.—LADY E. LEGARD, Barton Cottage, Malton.

WANTED

WANTED, officer's military haversack, good condition; also Baedeker of Austria, post-1918 edition.—Box 727.

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BOURNEMOUTH. Superior accommodation 10 mins. sea, h. and c., gas fires bedrooms, separate tables; recommended; board residence 4½ gns. Winter guests specially catered for. Special terms long winter periods. Vacancies. Phone 2575.

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OTHER PROPERTY AND AUCTIONS ADVERTISING PAGE 794.

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. C No. 2598

NOVEMBER 1, 1946

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

17 MILES NORTH-EAST OF LONDON

In the centre of a well-timbered park, 250 ft. above sea level, commanding magnificent views.



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Two cottages in the Village of Hallow.

Parkland with frontage to the main road. Woodland and meadowland.

1,700 ft. frontage to the River Severn.

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Parkland of 52 acres. Accommodation land of 34 acres with buildings.

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Lounge hall, 5 reception rooms, 10 principal and 5 servants' bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

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DELIGHTFUL STONE-BUILT AND STONE-TILED RESIDENCE
situate in a secluded position.



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9 bed and dressing rooms, nursery, 3 bathrooms, hall, 4 reception rooms, domestic offices and servants' bedrooms, stabling, garages, etc. Lodge and cottage. Charming gardens. Pasture. **58 ACRES.** Two stretches of fine salmon trout fishing in the Exe. Main electricity, excellent water supply.

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ATTRACTIVE MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE BUILT IN THE HALF-TIMBERED STYLE

Ten bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Electricity. Central heating. Garages. Stabling. Cottage.

½ MILE OF TROUT FISHING.

40 ACRES

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In completely unspoilt surroundings.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION. A MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

In excellent order throughout. Nine bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Electric light, central heating. Garage, stabling. Delightful, fine, inexpensively maintained garden. Paddock, spinney. Three cottages. **12 ACRES.** Trout fishing nearby.

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Particulars from Sole Agents : JACKSON STOPS & STAFF, Hendford, Yeovil (Tel. 1066), and at London, Northampton, Leeds, Chichester, Cirencester and Chester.

COTSWOLDS

FIRST-CLASS CORN AND STOCK FARM

Andoversford 3 miles, Cheltenham 8 miles.

520 ACRES

POSSESSION SEPTEMBER, 1947.

Excellent modernised farmhouse. Four bedrooms, bathroom, 2-3 reception rooms. Main electricity, excellent water to almost all fields. First-rate buildings. Five cottages. Freehold for Sale.



Sole Agents : JACKSON STOPS, Old Council Chambers, Castle Street, Cirencester (Tel. 334/5).

STABLING. GARAGE.

TWO COTTAGES. FARMERY.

Beautiful old-world grounds.

With chain of lakes providing TROUT FISHING.

Five well-let farms. Woodland, arable and park-like pasture, forming, all in a ring fence,

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

BUCKS

Met. and G.C. Station 1 mile, London 40 minutes, fast trains. Bus service $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Delightful position 600 ft. up on Chilterns. S.W. aspect with pleasing views.



IN ALL ABOUT 6 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500 IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Further 14 acres and 2 cottages can be acquired.

Agents : Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

(38,356)

KENYA COLONY

SEREMAI ESTATE, NYERI

5 miles from Nyeri. In one of the most healthy residential areas in the Colony. Bordered on one side by the Chania River giving good trout fishing. Large lake fed from Chania River containing black bass and tilapia.



ABOUT 505 ACRES

PRICE £28,000 INCLUSIVE

Agents : Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, and GEORGE A. TYSON, F.S.I., Corner House, Nairobi, Kenya.

Mayfair 3771
(10 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
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NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

1, STATION ROAD, READING ; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY, W.1

The first time in the market for years.



Solicitors : Messrs. HEDGES & SON, Wallingford. Auctioneers : Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading; and 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1.

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PLACE, S.W.1

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

Regent 0911
(2 lines)

By direction of J. Wilson, Esq.

MEESDEN HALL, BRENT PELHAM

Near Buntingford, Hertfordshire.

Six miles from Buntingford and 10 miles from Bishop's Stortford (bus service), with fast trains to London in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Lovely rural district.



of the Puckeridge Hunt. Golf at Bishop's Stortford and Royston. FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless sold privately) on November 26, 1946, with early vacant possession. Particulars from the Auctioneers : JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, S.W.1. Solicitors : BIRD & BIRD, Burley House, 5/11, Theobalds Road, Gray's Inn, W.C.1.

QUEEN ANNE RED
BRICK RESIDENCE
in beautiful order, 400 feet
up, fine views.

One mile village with shops. Approached by drive and well away from all roads. 3 good sitting rooms, 8-9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen with Aga cooker, electric light, central heating, main water. Capital flat. Garages for 4 cars, stabling with rooms over. Beautifully timbered grounds with lawns, orchard, tennis court, lake of half an acre. About 6 ACRES in all. Centrally heated.

COUNTRY CLUB OR HOTEL
AN OPPORTUNITY has occurred to acquire a property which possesses numerous features which appeal strongly to users of a country club. These include an indoor swimming pool, a squash court, a lake and a fine barn for dancing, with a stage. The house has a lounge hall, 4 reception and 16 bedrooms and 9 bathrooms. Central heating and electric light. Garages, stabling, 2 flats, lodge and 20 ACRES, hard and grass tennis courts. FREEHOLD FOR SALE.—Sole Agents : JAMES STYLES AND WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

NORTH DEVON

FOUR HUNDRED FEET above sea level. South-western aspect, panoramic views, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from village. Vacant possession of whole property of about 86 acres. STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE, approached by drive with entrance lodge, hall, 3 sitting rooms, 10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Aga cooker, servants' hall. Electric light, central heating, septic tank drainage, plenty of water, independent hot water. Stabling, garage, farm buildings. Simple gardens round house of about 3 ACRES. 47 ACRES of woodland, and grassland of 36 acres. PRICE FREEHOLD £10,000, or near offer for quick sale.—Inspected by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

EXTREMELY REASONABLE PRICE

LOVELY POSITION, NEAR WIMBLEDON COMMON (7 miles West End). Excellent long, low MODERN HOUSE on 2 floors. Drive approach, hall, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 12 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services, central heating, Oak floors. Garages for 4. Excellent cottage, gardens of great beauty, in all 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ ACRES. FREEHOLD £14,750.—Sole Agents : JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. Tel. : Regent 0911.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1



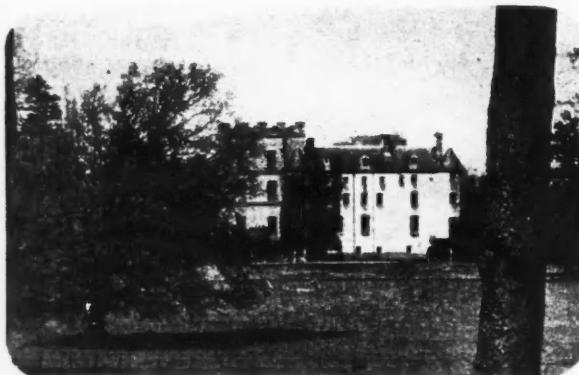
Regent 8222 (15 lines)

Telegrams: "Selanist, Piecy, London"

By direction of the Rt. Hon. Baron Sinclair, M.V.O.

BERWICKSHIRE

1½ miles from Duns, 7½ miles from Coldstream, and less than 15 miles from Berwick-on-Tweed.



WEYBRIDGE, SURREY

One of the most luxuriously equipped and fitted houses to be found in the market at the present time.

On the favourite St. George's Hill Estate.



For Sale by Auction as a whole or in two lots at the London Auction Mart, E.C.4, on November 12 next at 2.30 p.m. (unless sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. DRUGES & ATTLEE, 82, King William Street, London, E.C.4. Joint Auctioneers: NIGHTINGALE, PAGE & BENNETT, Kingston-on-Thames; or HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

DALGARROCK, "East Road."
Halls, 3 reception rooms, and a billiard room, sun lounge, boudoir, 11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices. Oak floors, joinery and paneling. Central and domestic hot-water installations. Company's services. Garages and chauffeur's flat, greenhouses, etc. Formal and other gardens, kitchen garden and woodland. Also modern Cottage Residence.
In all about 6½ ACRES (Freehold).

RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE known as

"NISBET HOUSE," DUNS

Comprising the fine old Border Residence of 13 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, etc., with park, lodge, cottages, garages and stabling.

THREE NOTED PEDIGREE STOCK FARMS of 590, 520 and 318 ACRES respectively.

IN ALL 1,543 ACRES

Shooting, trout fishing.

The whole estate produces an estimated and actual rental of £2,122 p.a.

For Sale by Auction as a whole or in 4 lots on Wednesday, November 20, 1946, at The Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed.

Solicitors: Messrs. SCOTT MONCRIEFF & TRAIL, 28, Rutland Square, Edinburgh. Land Agent: G. E. INGMAN, Esq., F.A.I., Park Estate Office, Pontypool, Mon. Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

HANTS AND SURREY BORDERS

Pleasant open situation in rural country, 3 miles S.W. Farnham. On bus route.

MATURED RESIDENCE approached by Lime Avenue.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, usual offices. Main electric, gas and water. Good outbuildings.

Old cottage, barn, garage and stables.

Well-timbered grounds including walled garden, 2 apple orchards, 3 paddocks,

in all

16 ACRES



FREEHOLD £8,000

Suitable for gentleman's small pleasure farm.

Apply HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.33,306)

SURREY

CIRCA 1535

Occupying a lovely secluded position 7 miles from Hyde Park Corner, adjoining and overlooking a well-known golf course.



A very beautiful

16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

of considerable historic interest, recently renovated and in first-rate order.

Long carriage drive with lodge.

Accommodation on two floors.

Reception hall (43 ft. x 19 ft.), billiards, 3 reception, 10 bedrooms, 4 baths. Model domestic offices.

FINE JACOBEAN PANELLING, CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT, RICHLY APPOINTED IN OAK.

Lovely old grounds 3½ ACRES.

Garage (4 cars). Early possession.

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KENT

At foot of North Downs.

BOXLEY ABBEY, NEAR MAIDSTONE

Dignified Queen Anne residence in historical setting. Six bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 4 staff rooms, 2 baths, 3 reception rooms, lounge hall. Compact easily run offices.

Central heating. Electric light and power.

Two garages. Gardener's cottage. Three loose boxes.

LOVELY GROUNDS OF 6½ ACRES including part of old Abbey ruins.

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222), and H. R. & L. COBB, Maidstone, Kent. (K.21,075)

IDEAL FOR A BUSINESS MAN

Countrified yet within 14 miles of Town with first-class train service.

A compact House with large lounge hall and 2 other reception rooms, bathroom, and 6 bedrooms, ground-floor offices, excellent cellarage.

Central heating and C.H.W. main services.

Two garages, gardener's cottage.

Delightful garden, ornamental ponds and paddock.

ABOUT 5 ACRES

FREEHOLD £8,500 or near offer for quick sale.

Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222). (K.25,718)

HANTS

Lovely situation. Winchester 7 miles.

A choice small Estate with beautiful Georgian Residence in perfect order throughout.

Long drive, hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices.

Central heating, water, electricity.

Two cottages, garages, stabling.

Delightful grounds, hard tennis court, grassland in all.

ABOUT 47 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Highly recommended by the Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. GUDGEON & SONS, Winchester, and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Regent 8222). (H.50,439)

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1

HERTS, NEAR BERKHAMSTED

Occupying a magnificent position some 500 feet above sea level and commanding beautiful views over a wide expanse of rural country.

AN IDEAL PROPERTY FOR A SCHOOL, INSTITUTION, COUNTRY CLUB, ETC.

AN IMPOSING WELL-BUILT MANSION

in splendid order and ideally placed in the centre of a large Estate.



Large entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, 20 bedrooms (most having fitted basins, h. and c.), 5 bathrooms, first-class domestic offices with servants' hall.

Main electricity and water. Central Heating throughout.
TWO COTTAGES. STABLING. GARAGES.

BEAUTIFULLY TIMBERED GROUNDS
fine walled kitchen garden, grassland, etc.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, 28b, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W.1. Regent 4304 (17,659)

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GROSVENOR, SQ., LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor
1441

EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE IN HANTS



A delightful red brick Period House with original features. Completely modernised and in first-rate order. Eight beds., 3 baths., 3 reception. Electric light, central heating. Lovely old-world gardens.

TO BE LET FURNISHED FOR TWO YEARS

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

BETWEEN WOKING AND GUILDFORD

LOVELY POSITION

facing south with fine views. Delightful miniature ESTATE of 20 ACRES with FINE MODERN HOUSE with all up-to-date equipment. Ten bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 reception. Cottage. Perfectly secluded in charming gardens, parkland, and woodland. Only £12,500 FREEHOLD.—Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

600 ft. UP ON THE CHILTERN

MODERN LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE

in first-class order. Hall, 3 reception, 6 beds (basins), bathroom. Main services. Stabling, garage. £8,500 with 6 ACRES.

or £12,500 with 20 ACRES and 2 COTTAGES.—Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

ON FAVOURITE SURREY LINKS

Direct access to the course. Half an hour London.

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE
OF CHARACTER IN FIRST-RATE ORDER

Eight beds, 4 baths, lounge hall, 3 reception. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Cottage. Finely timbered gardens, nearly

3 ACRES £10,750

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

Telegrams: "Sales" Edinburgh C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I.
90, PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH

Tel.: 32251
(2 lines)

SPORTING PROPERTIES FOR SALE

CAITHNESS. Capital dogging Grouse Moor of about 6,600 ACRES with 2 trout lochs, keeper's house and kennels, 4 sheep farms, and some small holdings. Hotel accommodation near by. The moor is accessible and easily walked, and has already yielded over 120 brace in August, 1946.

ROSS AND CROMARTY. About 20,000 ACRES of sheep grazing in owner's hands. No lodge. Capital stalking. Grouse and wild fowl shooting and trout fishing.

SUTHERLAND. Grouse shooting and occasional stag over 2,000 ACRES. Small comfortable house and sheep farm in owner's hands.

HEBRIDES. Exclusive fishing, salmon and trout and sea trout. Remote small house, bathroom and electric light. Shooting available.

PERTHSHIRE. About 750 ACRES, in delightful situation 10 miles from Perth. House with 4 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and servants' accommodation. Electric light from grid. 61 acres grass parks and young plantation. Three farms (det.). Grouse and good low ground shooting. Loch Leven fishing and golf within easy reach.

FOR SCOTTISH PROPERTIES—C. W. INGRAM, F.S.I.

184, BROMPTON ROAD.
LONDON, S.W.3

SURREY

UNEXPECTEDLY FOR SALE

Picturesque Modern Residence. Large rooms, well fitted, labour-saving. Hall, 2 reception, 4 bed, bath, excellent offices. "Aga." Main services. Nice Gardens, Tennis, Orchard, Kitchen Garden, Paddock.

4½ ACRES.

IMMEDIATE VACANT POSSESSION
FREEHOLD £6,500

£4,500 may remain on mortgage if required.
Sole Agents: BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY,
184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152)

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington
0152-3

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY, 184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152)

STRATFORD-ON-AVON
GENTLEMAN'S RESIDENCE AND FARM

This imposing old-tone
Red Brick Residence in

spotless condition, enjoying
extensive views of the
Cotswolds. Four good
reception, 6 bed (all with
h. and c. basins), bath.
Company's water, main
electricity. Central heating.
Excellent buildings and

100 ACRES
of exceedingly rich old grass.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD
WITH POSSESSION

ESSEX HIGHLANDS. 37 miles London
GENTLEMAN'S FARM

Exceptional opportunity to combine
pleasure and certainly profit farming with
excellent residential, social, and sporting
facilities: beautiful position, 300 feet up.
Most attractive residence of character, both
Georgian and Tudor periods, standing in
small park with picturesque sheet of water.
Modernised and easily run. Lounge hall,
3 rec., 6 bed, bath, splendid offices. Main
electricity, ample water, mains available.
Home Farm, 250 ACRES. In fine heart.
Excellent buildings. 6 cottages. Quite
unexpectedly in the market.
FREEHOLD POSSESSION

Sole Agents: as above.

Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1779)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St.,
Belgrave Sq.,
and 68, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1

By direction of Mrs. Thorne Muirhead.
**IDEAL FOR A TROUT HATCHERY, WITH LAKES, STREAM,
TRIBUTARY AND SPRINGS**

20 miles from the coast. London 1½ hours.

BEAUTIFUL XIVTH-CENTURY SUSSEX MANOR HOUSE



Lovely period features. Modernised completely at great expense and with infinite care, easily run and most conveniently planned. Three reception rooms, 6-7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, tiled kitchen with Aga. Large dairy, etc. Electric light from own plant (new). Two water supplies. Septic tank drainage (both main electricity and water available shortly).

**IMMEDIATE POSSESSION
FOR SALE FREEHOLD
WITH 23 ACRES
PRICE £13,500**

Inspected and confidently recommended by the Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (D.2676)

BORDERS OF CAMBS, BEDS AND HUNTS

Charming XVth-century Cottage Residence with possession.

Part tiled, part thatched roof. Some old oak. The Residence can be used as one or two houses. Half is let furnished. Tenant would give possession or remain as desired.

Five bed., 2 bath., 4 reception rooms, 2 kitchens (electric cookers). Main water and electricity. Constant hot water. Garage 2 cars.



1 ACRE OF GARDENS

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor
1032-33

UNspoilt Essex—Under 40 Miles from London by Road

High position within short walk of historical market town. Bus services to Bishop's Stortford, Braintree, Chelmsford, etc.



APPROXIMATELY 65 ACRES (MORE COULD BE HAD). POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

FIRST TIME IN THE SALE MARKET FOR MANY YEARS.

Recommended personally by the Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

EQUIDISTANT FROM DORKING and REIGATE

Fine position commanding distant southern views.



MODERNISED PERIOD HOUSE OF PECULIAR CHARM ON TWO FLOORS ONLY. A mile from village and bus services. Two large reception, oak paneling, 5 bed., 2 bath., 4 w.c.s. Main water, gas, electricity, heating. Garage (3), 1,500 sq. ft. of brick on buildings (would convert into cottage). Lawns, orchard. Fine grass meadow in all (let at £17 10s. p.a.) of 7 acres. £7,500. Vacant Possession of Residence. Personally recommended by RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2481

ESSEX. PERFECT SMALL ESTATE

Superb situation in Constable's country. 50 miles London.

VERY LOVELY PERIOD HOUSE IN WONDERFUL STATE OF PRESERVATION



Nearly £4,000 spent upon improvements.

Three fine reception rooms, with moulded oak beams, 6 bedrooms, 3 beautiful bathrooms.

Main electric light. Central heating. Aga. Fine tithe barn. Stabling. Superior cottage.

**PRICE £12,500
WITH 116 ACRES**

(85 acres let at £53 p.a., which more than covers tithe and rates on whole property).

Recommended as an exceptionally fine small estate requiring no expenditure and minimum upkeep.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

BORDERS OF WILTSHIRE and GLOUCESTERSHIRE

5 miles main line station. 1 hour 45 minutes London. 12 miles from Cirencester.

CHARMING STONE-BUILT HOUSE OF CHARACTER; GEORGIAN AND EARLIER PERIODS

Delightful situation on fringe of small hamlet.

In excellent order throughout. Lounge, 3 reception rooms, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Garages for 4 and stabling with staff quarters. Gardener's cottage. Charming old-world gardens and grounds bordered by a stream.

3 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £7,500

F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

GEERING & COLYER

HAWKHURST AND ASHFORD, KENT; RYE AND HEATHFIELD, SUSSEX

SUSSEX, in the Kipling country, 2½ miles main line station. A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE, delightfully set in finely wooded estate of 60 acres. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen fitted Aga, cooker, 6 bedrooms (3 fitted basins), dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Excellent water supply. Main electricity available. Telephone. Garage. Stable, stable, games room, gardener's cott. ge. GLYDWISH HALL, BURWASH. For sale privately or by Auction.—GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent.

SUSSEX. 1½ miles main line station. DELIGHTFUL ELIZABETHAN HOUSE incorporating portions of XIIth century Cistercian Abbey. Seven bed., bath, 3 rec. rooms, excellent offices. Interesting remains of Abbey Refectory and Chapel. Co.'s electricity, excellent water. Garage. Charming grounds and partly walled kitchen garden. 2 ACRES. THE ABBEY, ROBERTSBIDGE. For sale privately or by Auction on November 29, 1946.—GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent.

SUSSEX. 2½ miles Heathfield, 14 miles Eastbourne. A DELIGHTFUL MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE occupying secluded position. Six bed., bath, 3 rec. rooms, good offices. Main electricity and water. Tel. phone. Garage. Well-stocked gardens and grounds. Tennis lawn and orchard. 1½ ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £5,700.—GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent.

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS. Two miles main line station, 13 miles Tunbridge Wells. ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, 2½ ACRES, with really fine black and white Elizabethan Manor House, 7-10 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, cheerful offices. Central heating. Electric light plant. Excellent water. Fine old oasthouse, attractive grounds. Ballif's house. Model farmery and 4 cottages. FREEHOLD £17,500. VACANT POSSESSION OF HOUSE AND 61 ACRES.—GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent.

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 2420 & 4112.

ENCHANTING OLD BLACK AND WHITE FARMHOUSE

Thoroughly modernised and in entirely rural country 600 feet up on Herts and Bucks border. Cloakroom, 3 sitting rooms (incl. nook fireplaces), 7 bedrooms, 4 bath. Main services. Two garages, stabling. Charming gardens, paddock.

2 ACRES, FREEHOLD, £10,250

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

BETWEEN BURFORD AND CHIPPING NORTON

A FINE OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE in splendid condition. Hall, 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, bath. Main electricity and gas. Garage, range of outbuildings, well-kept gardens, pasture and stream.

3½ ACRES, FREEHOLD, £5,500

WELLESLEY-SMITH, as above.

Adjoining Windsor Great Park. Picturesque surroundings, easy reach Egham Station. AN ATTRACTIVE MANOR STYLE RESIDENCE erected about 15 years ago regardless of cost. Eminently suitable for use as a Country Club, School, Training Establishment, or for private accommodation. The accommodation comprises: Panelled entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, billiards room, 20 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Thermodynamically controlled central heating. Garage and stable block built round a tiled courtyard. Chauffeur's and grooms' flats. Two cottages. Large riding school with paddocks. The whole standing in an area of **ABOUT 32 ACRES**. For further particulars apply to: **BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, 32, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1** (Tel.: Victoria 3012), and Keelby House, Oxted, Surrey (Tel.: Oxted 975).

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LONDON, W.1

CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

WEST SUSSEX—NEAR PETWORTH

Station 2 miles. Express London trains in 1½ hours.

A BEAUTIFUL SUSSEX STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE



Freehold for Sale privately or by Auction in January next.

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

Restored and modernised. Perfect order. Well equipped. Eight bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, hall, 3 fine reception rooms, servants' sitting room. Aga cooker. Electric light, ample water, central heating. Garages, stabling. Lodge. Delightful landscape gardens.

ABOUT 16 ACRES

FRENTHAM, SURREY

Three miles from Farnham. London one hour.

WELL-BUILT HOUSE, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, main electric light and water, central heating, domestic hot water. Garage for 2 cars, chauffeur's rooms. Delightful well-timbered gardens.

NEARLY 3 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE, £8,000

VACANT POSSESSION ON
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'Phone:
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2061 (2 lines)1, Imperial Square, CHELTENHAM
42, Castle Street, SHREWSBURY

BRIDPORT. DORSET COAST. £6,500
DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE with sea views, 1 mile town. Lounge-hall, 3 good reception, 7 bed., bath., all main services. Large garage, good gardens and stabling. 3 ACRES. Low rates.—POSSESSION MARCH.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham.

UPPER FARM, S. DEVON-CORNISH BORDER. 246 ACRES. Attractive modernised Residence, 4 cottages, excellent buildings. £16,500. POSSESSION.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

SOMERSET. LOVELY WOODED PROPERTY HIGH UP, GLORIOUS COUNTRY NEAR EXMOOR. WELL-FITTED RESIDENCE. Three rec., 6 bed., bath. Electric light. Central heat. "Aga" cooker. Excellent stabling and garages. Wonderful views, 40 ACRES. £6,750.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham, as above.

NEAR TAUNTON. £6,250

VERY ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY PROPERTY, well fitted, mellowed old Residence. Seven bed., bath., 4 reception. Main electricity and water. Garage and stabling. Delightful grounds, 3 ACRES. Immediate possession.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham, as above.

COTSWOLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE. £4,600
HIGH UP, LOVELY COUNTRY. 3½ miles north of Stroud. GENUINE OLD HOUSE, 3½ bed., 2 rec., modern bathroom. Main electricity. Garage. Pretty garden. POSSESSION.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Cheltenham, as above.

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STONE-BUILT GEORGIAN HOUSE in first-rate hunting district; 8½ bed., 2 bath., 3 reception rooms. Main electricity and water. Central heat. Capital stabling and garages, etc. 18½ ACRES. £9,750 FREEHOLD.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham (as above).

ASHFORD HALL ESTATE, Nr. LUDLOW
SOUTH SHROPSHIRE. FINE EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE IN PARK. Three cottages. Home Farm. All splendidly timbered. 130 ACRES. FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION soon.—Auctioneers: CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Shrewsbury, as above.

WYE VALLEY. £7,750
FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE and grounds of 11 ACRES. Ten bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception. Central heating. Large garages, stables, etc. Ideal for private use, guest house, etc.—CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Cheltenham, or JACKSON STOPS, Cirencester, Glos.

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Land Agents: STRUTT & PARKER, 49, Russell Square, W.C.1.
Auctioneers: CHAS. OSENTON & CO., Leatherhead, Surrey.
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For Sale by Auction in Lots, November, 1946. As a Lot.
THE MODERN RESIDENCE WITH ABOUT 16 ACRES



Land Agent: B. S. ALLEN, Esq., 18, Bridge Street, Andover.
Joint Auctioneers: MESSRS. RICHARD AUSTIN & WYATT, 1, The Avenue, Southampton (Tel. 75274); JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 6341).

Containing 4 reception, 16 bed, billiards room, 4 bath. "Aga." Central heating. Main water. Modern drainage. Main electricity within ½ mile. Garage. Orchard. Stabling with flat over. **Upset Price £3,500**
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Home Dairy Farm with detached cottage and buildings suitable for dairy herd, with about 49 ACRES good pasture.

Lodge with 1½ ACRES
20 ACRES pasture and small Accommodation Lots.

Beautiful gardens of 11 acres and woodland. Possession of the house and grounds.

By direction of Capt. Richard O. T. G. Meyrick.

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Tavistock 5 miles, Plymouth 9 miles.
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BUCKLAND ABBEY, famous as the home of Sir Francis Drake, a fine example of mediæval architecture.

Occupying a beautiful situation commanding distant views over the Tavy Valley. Beautiful hall, chapel, library, 6 reception rooms, 13 bedrooms, bathrooms, water supply. With 1,087 acres Home Farm, two other Farms, 450 acres of Picturesque woodlands, some small holdings and several cottages. Over 2½ miles of fishing in the River Tavy.

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To be sold Freehold with 33 acres or with Home Farm and 4-6 cottages.

In all 83 ACRES

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WANTED

ESSEX SUFFOLK. Wanted, House in country, about 6 bedrooms, with 15 or 20 acres suitable fruit and chicken farming.—Box 717.

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WANTED

LONDON, 20-30 miles, south side preferred. Cottage required minimum 6 rooms, 5 acres. Consider property needing renovation/alteration.—Reply: A. BENJAMIN, 18, Golden Square, London W.1. Ger. 4543.

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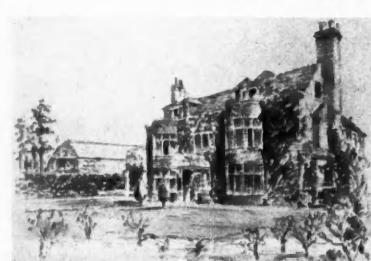
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erected in 1928, designed by Mr. Gerald Unsworth, beautifully and tastefully decorated and fitted. In excellent condition, standing in its own grounds of about 17 ACRES. Eight beds, dressing room, 3 bath, 3 reception, lounge hall. Full central heating. Garage for 2 or 3 cars. Co.'s water. Oak strip flooring throughout ground floor.



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GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, good offices. Garage for 2. Stabling. 2 Cottages.

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All main services. Central heating. Garage. Hard tennis court.

Beautifully laid out gardens with flower beds, kitchen garden, ornamental trees and fruit trees.



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Joint Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth, and HENRY MARTYN, F.V.I., Craven House, 121, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

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MODERN LABOUR-SAVING RESIDENCE



Secluded yet not isolated.

Complete in every respect. Beautifully fitted throughout.

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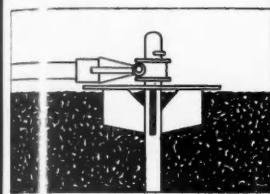
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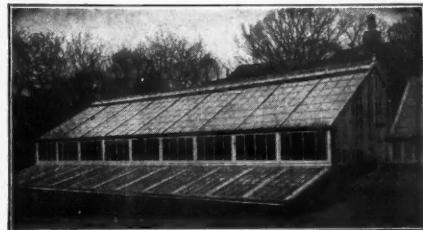
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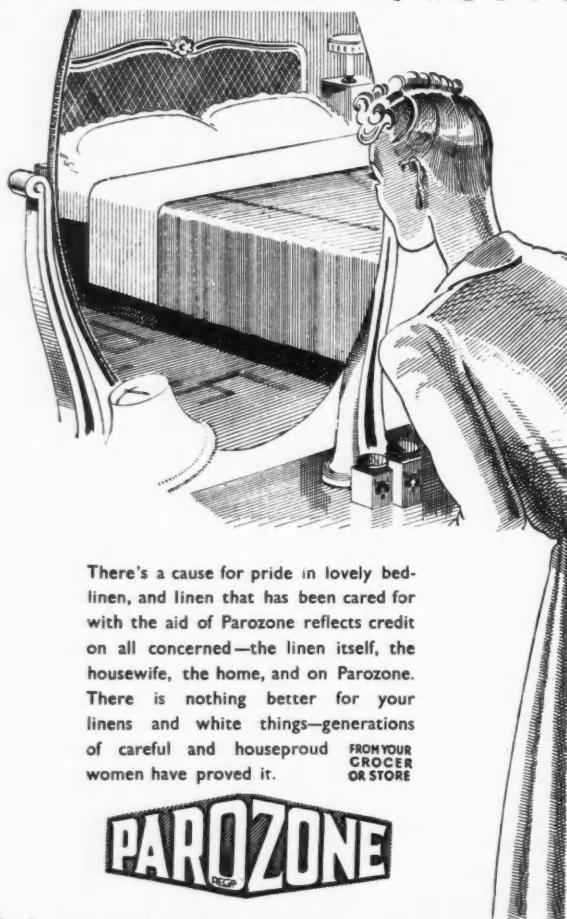
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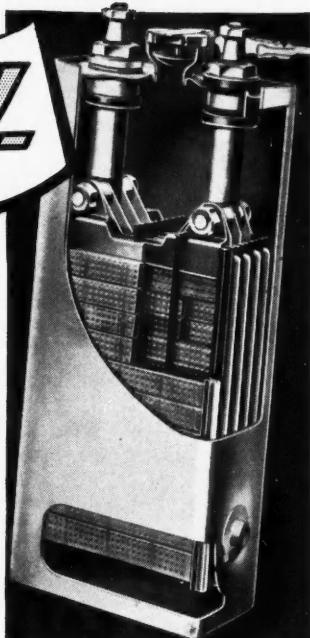
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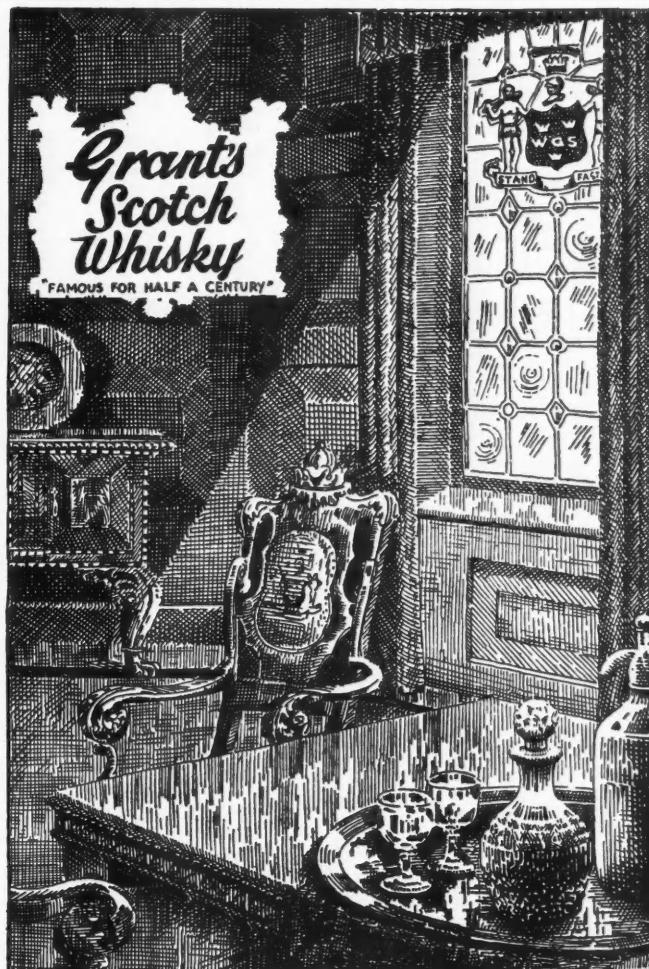
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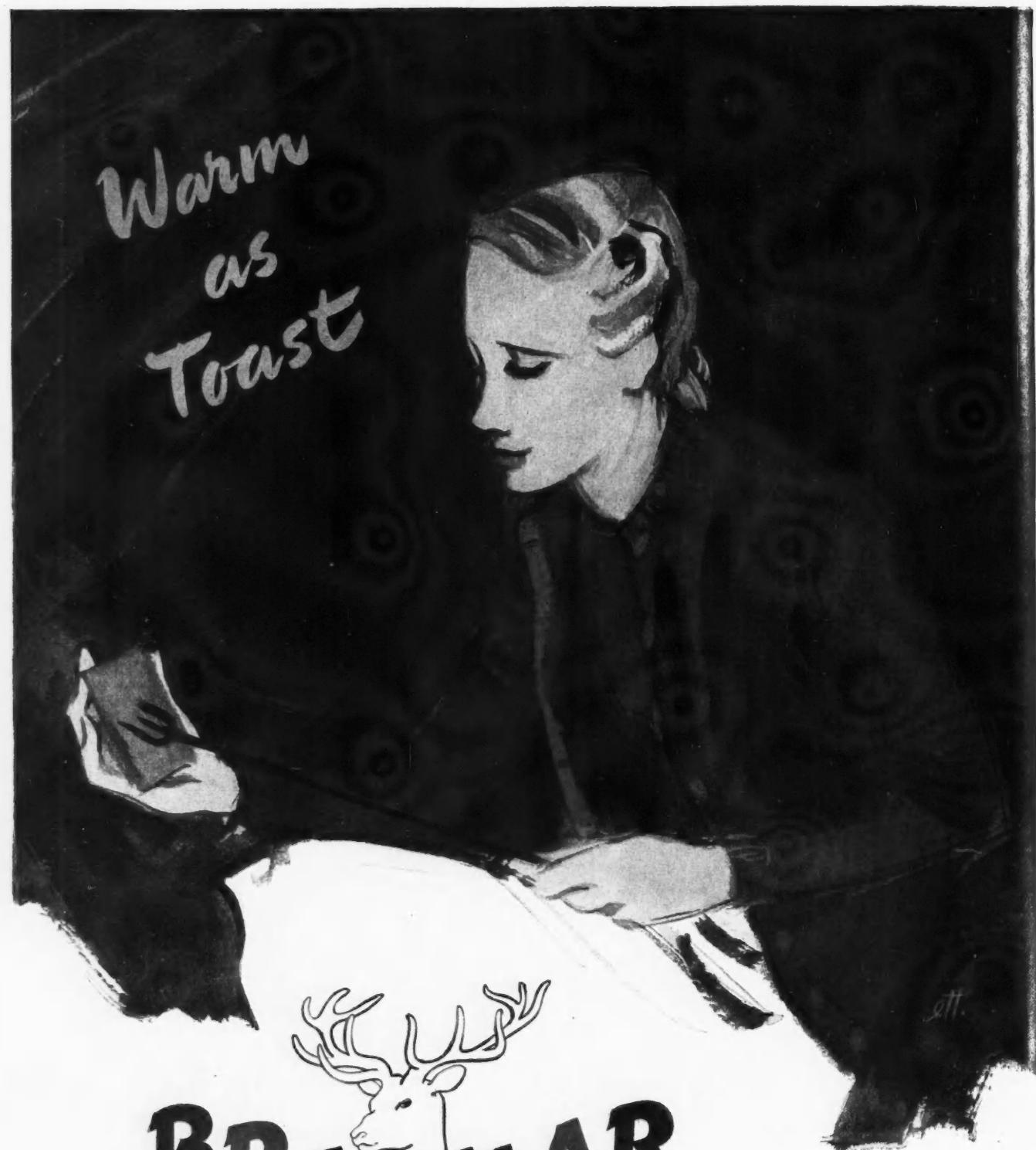
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Vol. C No. 2598

NOVEMBER 1, 1946



Bassano

MISS MARY STOURTON

Miss Mary Stourton is the elder daughter of the Hon. Mrs. K. Stourton

COUNTRY LIFE

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2-10, TAVISTOCK STREET
COVENT GARDEN
W.C.2.

Telegrams: Country Life, London
Telephone: Temple Bar 7351

ADVERTISEMENT AND
PUBLISHING OFFICES:

TOWER HOUSE
SOUTHAMPTON STREET
W.C.2.

Telephone: Temple Bar 4363
Telegrams: Advitox, Rand,
London.

The Editor reminds correspondents that communications requiring a reply must be accompanied by the requisite stamps. MSS. will not be returned unless this condition is complied with.

Postal rates on this issue: Inland 2d. Canada 1½d. Elsewhere abroad 2d. Annual subscription rates including postage: Inland, 93s. 2d.; abroad, 93s. 8d.; Canada, 90s. 6d.



CO-OPERATION IN BUILDING

MR. BEVAN, presumably on the principle that the most effective form of defence is attack, recently accused the Opposition of hampering the housing campaign by lack of co-operation. The best basis for co-operation is sympathetic understanding, founded on knowledge of what is wanted—and even his most fervent admirer could scarcely maintain that the Minister had ever invited sympathy or provided material for its translation into action. Political bias and social prejudice have most patently inspired his public declarations as well as his administrative decisions ever since, on taking office, he declared war on the sharks of private enterprise. The difference, it will probably seem to those who do not share Mr. Bevan's political views, between himself and his political opponents is that they are recommending a policy which would use every possible agency to the full, while he is obstinately pursuing a line of thought which forbids the most effective use of private enterprise. But it becomes clearer every day that nothing will be gained by keeping the vital problems of housing in the political arena. Very important facts underlying Mr. Bevan's case cannot be denied. Very few local authorities are building their own houses, and consequently almost all the houses now being built are in fact being built by private firms. There can be no doubt as to the overwhelming need for cheap houses to let, and this is a considerable justification for the building of houses to the order of local authorities, and for the arrangement whereby most new dwellings will pass into municipal ownership. The great majority of houses built so far by private builders under licence are intended for sale and not for letting.

While it seems probable that a greater reliance on the private builder might speed up the number of dwellings produced, there would certainly be an increase in the number of houses built for sale. If this does not matter because there are as many willing purchasers as willing tenants, well and good. If it does matter because of present social conditions, obviously the two considerations must be balanced. A more important question in the circumstances is probably why private builders building on their own initiative should be able to make so much better progress than when they work under contract for local authorities. Mr. Bevan's obvious reply is, and was, that they have naturally a greater incentive to push things on in one case than in the other. This cannot be the whole of the story, however. Building by contract need not be slow provided that the contracting authorities have the experience and knowledge to manage their housebuilding programmes efficiently, to place

and conduct their contracts on sound principles and to provide their contractors with reasonable and adequate incentives for rapid and efficient work. Here is an area where the Government themselves can by stimulation and guidance of local authorities do much to promote effective co-operation.

That maldistribution of materials and labour is also playing an unnecessarily large part in causing delay seems undoubted. So too, most people will think, is the speed at which our building operatives do their work. In this connection those who have watched the progress of local repairs or other building operations since the war may perhaps have smiled a little grimly at the announcement that an official enquiry is to be held into the subject of fatigue in the building industry.

churches which survived the Great Fire of 1666 should be retained. Of the twenty bombed churches it is proposed to rebuild or restore eleven, and these include all the most important—St. Stephen Walbrook, St. Bride, St. Mary-le-Bow—as well as All Hallows, Barking (the Tothill church) and such lesser gems as St. Vedast Foster and St. Nicholas Cole Abbey. The sites of five, it is suggested, should be sold, and about some of these there will no doubt be controversy. The loss of St. Andrew by the Wardrobe and St. Swithin, Cannon Street, would be particularly regrettable; in fact, the whole policy of raising money for restoration and other purposes by the sale of sites is open to question. Of the four others, the sites of three would be used for new church institutes, while it is proposed that St. Augustine's, Watling Street, should become the chapter house of St. Paul's Cathedral.

STRANGE MEATS

DURING the war troops at northern stations ate such relatively unfamiliar foods as whale, seal and bear, and in London suburbs were at one time selling well as "black pigeons"; there were also suspicions about some of the few "rabbits," which unkind people thought might once have been associated with catskins, in demand for making cheap fur coats. But only after a year of peace was cormorant-shooting on the north coast of Scotland publicised as a profitable business, returning men up to £20 a week. The cormorants are reported to make 5s. or 6s. each in London, but the guise in which they appear on the menus of hotels and restaurants is said to be unknown. A reflection of Mr. Aneurin Bevan's on "squatting" in Government camps may be aptly recalled; if, he said, the Government had offered the camps to the people, they would have complained bitterly that the accommodation was sub-standard. So with the cormorants; if people had been offered cormorants against their meat ration, or if cormorants had been fed to troops, there would have been howls of protest, but, as things are, people pay high prices for them. Cormorants may not, of course, taste so repulsive as might be expected. Our forbears prized herons as the best of table birds; puffins were sometimes acceptable as rent; and Taylor, the water poet, wrote appreciatively of the entirely piscivorous gannet:

"... a most delicate fowl, ... It is a very good flesh, but it is eaten in the form as we eat oysters, standing at a sideboard, a little before dinner, unsanctified without grace; and after it is eaten it must be well liquored with two or three good rouses of sherry or canary sack."

Nevertheless, while cormorants are being served in expensive London hotels, there should be less inclination to smile at the tastes of the Japanese, who were said in pre-war days specially to enjoy snakeflesh, dragonflies, weasels, fox tongues and monkey heads.

AUTUMN COLOURS

THE leaves' changing of colour is one of the few consolations for the end of the summer and the approach of winter. We may not be able in this country to rival the almost fantastic glories of the fall in America, but in our own modest way we do tolerably well. Until quite lately this year we have not lived up to our own modest standard, but now at long last the autumn has begun to shed its green mantle for the familiar reds and golds and russets. Why autumn is thus capricious in its behaviour nobody seems to know. The general belief is that it is after a wet summer—and gardeners know this last one has been wet enough—that the leaves delay their change, and further that it is the driest summers that produce the brightest autumns. Those, however, who are of a statistical turn of mind and can quote past years with precision, do not wholly agree with this view. They can produce wet summers followed by early and splendid colouring and deny the existence of any general rule. One law they do seem tentatively to lay down, namely that a frost in November following a green summer can produce sudden wonders of colouring—so we may yet look forward to a glorious transformation scene.

THE CITY CHURCHES

TWO years ago the Bishop of London's Commission issued an interim report on the future of the City churches, and that has now been followed by detailed recommendations covering all the twenty bombed buildings, as well as the twenty-seven which remain intact or only slightly damaged. The proposals are in welcome contrast to the destructive programme which raised such an outcry twenty years ago and which, had it been implemented, would have wrought almost as much havoc as the enemy's bombs. A new sense of responsibility for the City's historic monuments, doubtless quickened by the toll of war, has gone hand in hand with a revaluation of the lesser works of Wren and his craftsmen. The Commission emphatically recommend that no Wren church, not destroyed or damaged beyond the possibility of restoration, should be sacrificed, and that all the



H. L. Wainwright

LONG SHADOWS ON THE GRASS AT MARSTON, WILTSHIRE

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

A CORRESPONDENT has raised the point whether a dog understands mirrors, pictures and statuary and, to quote Professor Joad, all I can say in reply is that it depends on the dog, and what is meant by the word "understand." It is my experience that the average young dog up to, say, the age of nine months obtains something of a shock on seeing for the first time what appears to be another dog in a mirror—an extremely nice-looking dog, of course, and of the right breed, but nevertheless another dog. Owing to the fact that this "dog" has apparently neither tail nor hindquarters, for he is always standing face to face with one, it is impossible to identify him, or go further into the matter concerning his birth certificate, and so, after two or three encounters with this strangely incomplete animal, it is written off as not being worth worrying about, until finally it is grasped that it is merely a reflection of one's self in a looking glass. After this the mirror is ignored as a foolish freak of that queer incomprehensible creature, the human being, and there is not the slightest necessity to use it to see how one is looking in the morning, as one knows that one is absolutely correct in every detail.

MY correspondent states that her bitch, a Scottie, recognises and is interested in pictures of dogs provided they are of the correct size, not less than 12 in. x 12 in., but her interest is cursory, as here again the old trouble of there being no third dimension prohibits proper investigation. This bitch is more interested in garden statuary, and apparently knows what a model is meant to represent, as a stone carving of a rabbit has far more appeal to her than that

I have never owned a musical dog and my

present Scottie shows neither appreciation nor dislike, beyond throwing himself down with a crash when on the wireless we hear what is called contemporary music, and which sounds to me very much like that produced by the subalterns of my Militia regiment when on guest nights they amused themselves by playing on the instruments of the battalion band. Contemporary music at times seems very similar to our efforts, as the object at which we aimed was the greatest possible noise on all the instruments at the same moment.

YEARS ago in my youth we had a wire-haired terrier, who in common with others was apparently pained when the family baritone obliged with such songs as *Out on the Deep When the Sun is Low*, and that noisy, menacing ditty, *I am the Bandolero*. The terrier did not howl—he was too upset for that—but with suppressed moans he rushed around the room, with first the right and then the left ear skidding along the carpet, in an endeavour to rub off from his ear drums the terrible reverberating high Gs. that were jangling every nerve in his body. I do not think this dog liked music—certainly not that produced by the family baritone—and then one day after a very musical evening he discovered a non-existent mouse in the music box. Quite a lot of damage was done to the contents before he was satisfied that the mouse was non-existent, but, though Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata* and Chopin's *Nocturnes* were only slightly torn, every one of the baritone's songs was ripped to shreds. As our family was not really a nice one, there were so many comments on the dog's wonderful sagacity, discrimination and taste that the baritone did not

show the same alacrity to oblige in future. That was as much as one could hope for, as in those days Victorian baritonitis was quite incurable.

AMONG the pastimes about which I know practically nothing, one which has always attracted me is archery. I think my career as an archer was nipped in the bud at the age of eleven when, the day after a godfather uncle had presented me with a super outfit, consisting of long bow, sheaf of arrows and target, I showed my hitherto latent skill by hitting the Indian runner drake through the head with an arrow as he swam about with his harem.

Despite my ignorance of all matters pertaining to archery, I do know that to leave one's bow strung when not actually in use is on a par with putting one's gun away in the smoking-

room case with the cartridges in the breach, or coming on parade with a live round in a .303 rifle. I have never been able to examine a Crusader's defaulter sheet—I doubt if there is one in existence even in the British Museum—but I can imagine that, among other entries against Bowman-Private Stephen Pomfret in the year 1191 A.D., one would find inscribed: "Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline in that on the 21st March he left his bow strung for seven hours."

ONE can envisage Bowman-Sergeant Richard Reeve giving evidence on the occasion when Pomfret was brought up before his Commanding Officer in the orderly-room tent.

"Beg pardon, sir, but at 22 hours on the 21st inst., about seven hours after the enemy

had surrendered in Acre and the fighting had ceased on all flanks, I was proceeding through the streets of the town on picquet duty when I heard a disturbance in a wine shop on the water-front. On entering I found the accused, Bowman-Private Pomfret, holding a flagon of wine in one hand, and beating time to the song of 'Take me back to Blighty' with his bow, which on examination I found to be strung!" The sentence in the last column in the handwriting of the C.O. was, I imagine, 168 hours Field Punishment and one ear struck off.

All this has been brought back to me across the years because, on the opening day of the Britain-Can-Make-It Exhibition, I saw two super long bows on show, both of which were tightly strung and not "standing at ease"; but possibly some real archer rectified the matter.

THE KING'S PICTURES

By ALLAN GWYNNE-JONES

LOVERS of painting who visit the great exhibition of the King's Pictures at Burlington House will feel deep gratitude to His Majesty the King for the unstinted manner in which he has thrown open his collection to the selectors, even allowing such pictures as the exquisite Gainsborough (the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland and Lady Elizabeth Luttrell, No. 82), which usually hang in their Majesties' private apartments, to be taken from the walls. They will also wish to thank the small committee who have undertaken the arduous task of selection and arrangement. The difficulties such a vast exhibition entails are immense—not least the problem of imposing

a reasonable sequence without in so doing sacrificing the showing of individual pictures. Most of these difficulties they have triumphantly solved, and the catalogue, and in particular the excellent preface, is clear, and, though packed with scholarship, is easy to read.

The first rooms of the exhibition are devoted to portraits from the time of Henry VIII to Queen Victoria, and they are arranged as far as was practical in approximate chronological order, though no pedantic continuity of date has been allowed to interfere with good hanging—and the hanging is very good indeed. Then follow the principal works from the collection of Charles I; the Venetian paintings which were

acquired by George III; the Dutch paintings bought by George IV; the early Italian and early French and German paintings collected by the Prince Consort; and finally sporting pictures and works by Victorian painters.

One of the great interests of this exhibition is that in spite of its vast scope we can always feel the existence of personal choice. The collection has not been formed by carefully considered additions, by sifting and cross-checking, as at the National Gallery. On the contrary, where a Sovereign has admired an artist's work he has really plunged—as a private collector should—buying purely for his pleasure, and lavishly. Hence there are great gaps and unevenness of



1.—Attributed to MARC GHEERAERTS, *circa* 1562-1636
Lady Arabella Stuart (Catalogue No. 11). 85½ ins. x 53½ ins.
From Hampton Court



2.—HANS HOLBEIN THE YOUNGER 1497-1543
Derich Born (15) 23½ ins. x 17½ ins.
From Windsor

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quality, but this is more than made up for to the student by the new light which is thrown on certain artists when he sees them, so to speak, in bulk. To give a minor instance—here are a number of paintings by Zuccarelli, a most charming if not an important artist, whose full flavour, I, for one, have never relished before. Again and again we have a similar experience.

The great interest which our Sovereigns have taken in painting has not been adequately recognised. How grateful we must feel to Henry VIII for bringing over Holbein and establishing him as Court Painter, and though some of his greatest works have been destroyed and others dispersed, many wonderful things remain. But our greatest debt is to Charles I. It is no exaggeration to say that he was one of the greatest and most discerning collectors of all time. He once owned a large proportion of the best Titians in the world—almost all those now in the Louvre, for instance—and not only Titians; he also owned Giorgione's *Fête Champêtre* as well as works by Raphael, Veronese and many other Italian painters. Moreover, he purchased the Raphael cartoons for tapestries designed for the Sistine Chapel, which are now in the Victoria and Albert Museum, and too large to be included in this exhibition. He brought Van Dyck to England, and bought every Rubens he could lay his hands on, besides giving him many commissions; the *War and Peace*, now in the National Gallery, was painted for him.

It is heart-breaking to think how small a proportion of these masterpieces remain with us; for though great efforts were made after the Restoration to buy back pictures which had been sold by the Commonwealth, the most important were not recovered, and, grateful as we are for these, they are only a small fraction of what must surely have been the greatest collection of masterpieces any one person, whether king or millionaire, has ever brought together. Had this dispersal been foreseen by painters, what artist would not have fought for the King!

Frederick, Prince of Wales, the father of George III, bought Rubens and Van Dyck. George III commissioned Gainsborough, Zoffany and Ramsay—whom he preferred to Reynolds—while his most notable purchase was that of the Smith collection of Italian paintings. Joseph Smith was a rich man who became Consul in Venice. He was a friend and patron of Canaletto. Indeed, he acted as a sort of impresario for him, he got him commissions, arranged for his visit to England and owned a very large number of his pictures.

George IV bought many Dutch pictures, particularly Teniers, for whom he had a great enthusiasm, and it was he who commissioned Lawrence to paint the series of large portraits to celebrate the ending of the Napoleonic wars which hang in the Waterloo Chamber at Windsor.

The Prince Consort collected early Italian and early French and German paintings as well as those by contemporary English artists, and if we do not to-day greatly admire Winterhalter and Landseer, there are two pictures—Winterhalter's *First of May* (No. 56) and Landseer's *Four Pets of Queen Victoria* (No. 54)—which have considerable charm.

I would like here to thank Mr. Anthony Blunt, the Surveyor of the King's Pictures, and Mr. Benedict Nicolson, the Deputy Surveyor, for their great kindness in giving me the facts on which this much oversimplified survey is based, and to assure the reader how fascinating these facts become when set out fully in the preface to the catalogue and in the interesting notes appended to each picture.

It will be seen how truly perceptive many of our Sovereigns have been, for not only did they buy great works by masters then dead, but were equally lavish patrons of the living.

We are fortunate indeed that our present King and Queen are continuing so notably in this great tradition. In the present exhibition His Majesty the King's most recent purchase, a small painting by Sebastiano Ricci (No. 411), is of particular interest as it



3.—ALBRECHT DÜRER 1471-1528
Portrait of a Young Man (160) 12½ ins. x 10 ins. From Windsor



4.—MATHIEU LE NAIN circa 1607-77
The Young Gamblers (425) 21½ ins. x 25 ins. From Buckingham Palace



5.—JAN STEEN 1626-1679

The Morning Toilet (316) 25½ ins. x 20¾ ins. From Buckingham Palace



6.—REMBRANDT 1606-1669 The Shipbuilder and His Wife (387) 45 ins. x 66½ ins. From Buckingham Palace

is a study for the larger picture at Hampton Court, while Her Majesty's discernment and bold judgment as a collector of modern pictures is well known.

In the notes which follow I have only attempted to describe a few of the pictures which especially appealed to me and of which I could get good photographs. I did not see the full-length portraits by Gainsborough, Lawrence and Romney, or the Italian primitives, as they had been temporarily taken from the walls, and at the end of a long day I could only look carefully at a few of the many very fine small Dutch paintings. May I suggest that the visitor to whom these particularly appeal will greatly add to his enjoyment if he takes a magnifying glass with him? Such works as the small Gerard Dou (No. 344), as large in conception as it is small in size (it is six inches high), the Van der Haydens and other highly wrought works amply repay close study.

The Canalettos are hung together and fill Room XI. There is nothing here, or indeed elsewhere, to equal *The Stonemason's Yard* in the National Gallery, but the view of the islands of Murano and S. Michele (No. 437) is also unique in a different way, and to my mind is the finest painting in the room. It is a large sketch very loosely painted, lovely in colour and grand in design. It is a pity that it was necessary to hang it so high; those who have not seen it before may find it difficult to realise its exceptional quality.

I felt that a small reproduction of Rubens's magical landscape with figures, *St. George and the Dragon* (No. 288) would not do it justice, and I could not get a good photograph of Tintoretto's wonderful *Dominican* (No. 203). I would like to have reproduced Ter Borch's *Reading the Letter* (No. 296). He has not the vivid sense of life, the rasp, of Steen, but the gentleness and sweetness of his mind and his delicate sense of tone are well illustrated in this beautiful picture. The . . . but the temptation to enumerate must be resisted!

Here then are notes on a few pictures from this wonderful exhibition, which are reproduced here.

Marc Gheeraerts (Fig. 1). One is tempted to say of this beautiful work how English it is! It reminds one, though it is over 7 ft. high, and few of his works are over 7 in., of the English miniaturist Nicholas Hillyarde; indeed the romantic sentiment, the extreme refinement of colour and delicacy of drawing are all qualities we admire in Hillyarde's works and which we have come to regard as peculiarly English.

Holbein the Younger (Fig. 2). This, I think, is the finest Holbein in the exhibition, though the portrait of Reskimer (No. 25) runs it close. Both pictures are small, and I think Holbein is nearly always at his best on a small scale. In some of the larger works, even in the portrait of Henry Guildford, where the head is magnificent, one's enjoyment is interfered with by the flat and almost mechanical painting

of the chains, patterns and so on. But in both these pictures, and in particular in the one reproduced, a wonderful plasticity is maintained right through the picture; the detail is absorbed and is not, as it were, laid on top. The boy's head is a miracle of firm and yet soft modelling, and the choice of pose, the rich and sombre colour and the unexpectedness of the sprays of brown oak leaves which lean across the background are in complete accord with the poetic sentiment of the picture, a sentiment seldom found expressed so perfectly in Holbein's work. One has only to turn to the portrait of the Duke of Norfolk (No. 18) where the head is almost equally full of feeling—though of a quite different kind—to see that the rest of the picture, fine as it is, is not seen in the same way as the head. It is the rare combination of consistency of mood, insight into character, and miraculous drawing which makes the *Derich Born* so great a portrait.

Albrecht Dürer (Fig. 3).—To me this portrait was one of the great revelations of the exhibition—the more so as for much of Dürer's work, and in particular for his engravings, I have a coldness verging on distaste. But all prejudice melts before such a masterpiece. It is again proof of Charles I's appreciation of great painting that he should have bought a picture so dissimilar both in feeling and execution from the Van Dycks, Rubens, Titians and Raphaels which formed the great part of his collection. It is interesting to note—as we are told in the catalogue—that this portrait was painted after Dürer's second visit to Venice. Was it perhaps the Venetian breadth combined with vivid and piercing characterisation which King Charles so instantly recognised?

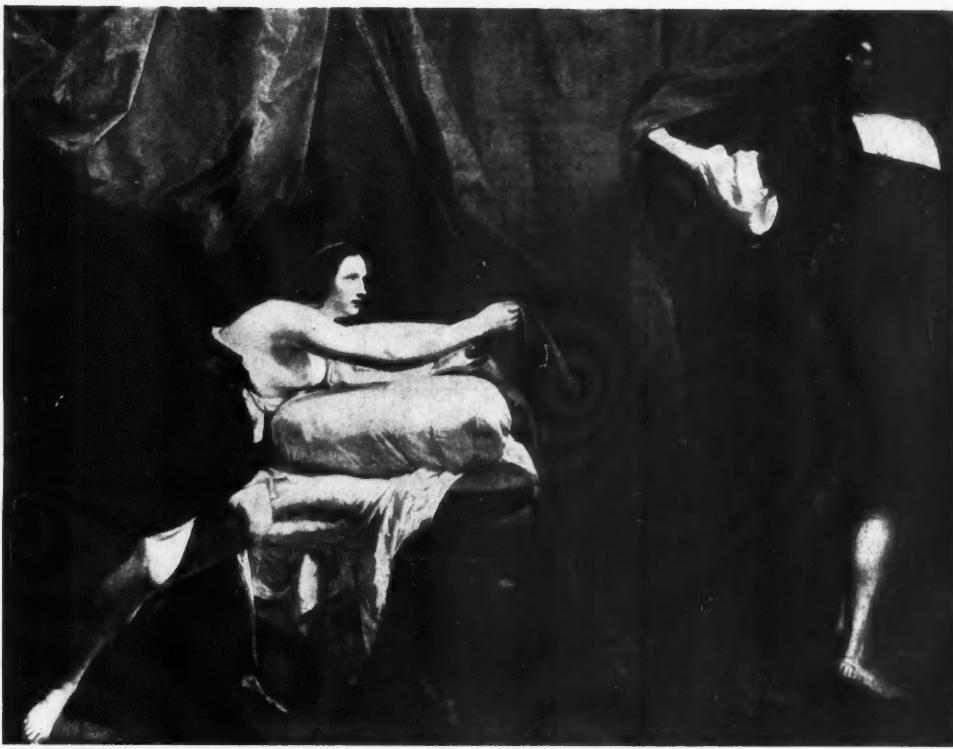
Mathieu Le Nain (Fig. 4).—This small painting is remarkable in many respects. It is stated in the simplest terms, it shows deep psychological understanding, and it discovers in an everyday event a grand and monumental design.

Jan Steen (Fig. 5).—At his best Steen is a great painter. In England we have three masterpieces: the *Music Lessons* in the Wallace Collection and National Gallery, and this painting purchased by the Prince Regent; it is full of vitality and has a sparkling freshness, unsurpassed, as far as I know, in his work. Will it be thought too fanciful to say that here is the same sort of cool and flashing light that we find in Constable's landscapes? Steen, in his day, was as remarkable in this respect as was Constable. Turn to the very fine Vermeer (No. 303) and it will be seen how relatively "brown" it is.

Rembrandt (Fig. 6).—Painted in 1633, this is a conversation piece. We have no comparable example in the National Collections. It is a superb work. Though very closely worked, it achieves complete unity; the hands, for instance, could hardly be carried further, yet how wonderfully they take their place.

Orazio Gentileschi (Fig. 7).—This very large picture is one of the surprises of the exhibition. Gentileschi is under-estimated. He is said to be rhetorical—so in his great speeches is Mr. Churchill—but rhetoric does not necessarily preclude passion and sincerity. The figure of Potiphar's wife is not only superb in gesture but profound in sentiment. Cover the lower right-hand corner and the diagonal sweep of the design is magnificent. Is it not the suggestion of a dancer's pose in Joseph's legs—or is it only that they are less well drawn, and so do not convince—that prevents our complete acceptance? In spite of this Poussin, I think, would have been proud to have painted this picture. Again, Charles I's judgment is vindicated.

Titian (Fig. 8).—This is an early Titian. It has simplicity and grandeur of planning; to this in his later works he adds full atmospheric understanding and that envelopment of tone which makes him so great a painter.



7.—ORAZIO GENTILESCHI 1562-1647
Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (258) 78 ins. x 102 ins. From Hampton Court



8.—TITIAN circa 1485/8-1576
Portrait of a man known as Jacopo Sannazzaro (199) 33 ins. x 28 ins. From Hampton Court

HOUNDS THAT HUNT BY SIGHT AND SCENT

By A. CROXTON SMITH

PRIMEVAL men who by first taming wolf cubs started the race of domestic dogs were probably actuated by a desire to have an auxiliary that would kill game for food. In their hard lives sport as we know it had no part, although the excitement of the chase may have given rise to feelings akin to those of modern hunting men, and as civilisation advanced hounds that hunted by scent or dogs that coursed wild animals became commonplace. We may read about them in Homer, who is supposed to have lived some 2,000 years ago, but the period, distant though it seems, is roughly 8,000 years nearer to us than the New Stone Age, in which dogs appeared. Remains of Neolithic dogs have been discovered in this country as well as on the Continent.

A long interval, again, separates Homer from the eighth century of the Christian era, when bloodhounds come into the picture—those handsome black-and-tans that are so much admired, but which have suffered badly under the stress of war. St. Hubert, head of an abbey in the Ardennes, who died in 727, was a mighty hunter, his pack of hounds, some black and some white, having a reputation for staunchness throughout the neighbouring countries. His successors also cherished the pack with care, and for more than five centuries—from 1200-1789—the royal kennels of France were enriched annually with three couples. It is said that William the Conqueror and his knights brought some of these hounds with them after 1066, and there is a reasonable supposition that most of those that hunt by scent in this country or in France had their foundations in the bloodhounds.

The black or black-and-tan St. Huberts were the ancestors of the bloodhound, and probably the Talbot, which was popular in England from the twelfth to the sixteenth centuries, came from the white St. Hubert. It is more than likely that this hound afterwards became known as the old Southern hound, which was "slow in pursuit" as Shakespeare said. They are commemorated in heraldry in the arms of the Shrewsbury family, who have two hounds as supporters.

It is not surprising that the exquisite noses and full rich voices of bloodhounds should have appealed to sportsmen, and the first of the qualities was taken full advantage of in tracking men in lawless times. Bloodhounds, above all hounds or dogs, can hunt a colder scent, even such a light scent as that left by man, with assurance and deadly accuracy if they have been well trained. In an old history of the Antiquities of Westmorland and Cumberland published in 1777, we read that "Slough dogs were for pursuing offenders through the sloughs, mosses and bogs that are not passable but by those that were acquainted with the various and intricate bypaths and turnings." Two centuries before that, Holinshed recorded that "there is a law also amongst the Borderers in time of peace that whoso denieth entrance or sute of a sleuth hound in pursuit made after felons and stolen goods, shall be holden as accessorie unto the thief."



WELL-TRAINED BLOODHOUNDS CAN HUNT A LIGHT SCENT WITH ASSURANCE AND DEADLY ACCURACY

Their nose and brain are so receptive of impressions that a really well-trained bloodhound can still hunt a man wearing shoes that have not been doctored with aniseed 24 hours after the trail has been laid, and can identify him from among others at the end of the task. Generally speaking, Great Britain is so overpopulated that there is not so much scope for the practical use of hounds as there was in olden times, but even recently they have done some extremely valuable work in tracking criminals.

Although the breed has been kept alive by means of exhibitions, its scenting faculties have not been impaired by disuse, and any enthusiasts who cannot afford fox-hunting or may be averse to blood sports can have plenty of amusement on foot by watching a single hound or a couple at work on a trail that may be laid to suit the convenience of the followers. Bloodhounds are so handsome and distinctive on the show bench that new exhibitors who have the accommodation might very well consider the desirability of establishing a kennel.

Irish wolfhounds, majestic in proportions, the tallest of all dogs, are very different in character and appearance. Those that we know

now are built in the similitude of bigger and heavier deerhounds, which means that they belong to the greyhound family. Before the last war classes for them filled well at shows, and they were supported by keen, if not numerous, admirers. These dogs have their roots far back in the history of Ireland, though one would not feel any certainty in suggesting that they were one of the four breeds mentioned in the ancient Brehon Laws, which were adapted to Christianity by St. Patrick. We may take it that they were the big hunting-dogs of the old Irish kings, and that they were esteemed not only in their own country but in England and elsewhere for their ability in destroying wolves, which at one time were a pest. In 1335 Edward III sent one of his huntsmen to Ireland to procure some of their big dogs.

What were the old dogs like? We have no authentic evidence upon which to form a picture that would associate them in appearance with the present Irish wolfhounds. The fact that they were variously spoken of as Irish greyhounds or wolf-dogs does not mean very much, because they undoubtedly were of the greyhound type. In his *Animated Nature* of about 1770, Goldsmith lifted the veil to some extent, but not as much as one would have liked. The wolf-dog, he told us, was bred up in the houses of the great, or such gentlemen as chose to keep them as a curiosity. He went on to say:

"He is extremely beautiful and majestic as to appearance, being greatest of the dog kind to be seen in the world. The largest of them I have seen, and I have seen above a dozen, was about four feet high, or as tall as a calf a year old. He was made extremely like a greyhound, but rather more robust, and inclining to the figure of the French Matin or the Great Dane."

He did not tell us whether this particular dog was smooth-coated or broken-haired, but he mentioned that his colour was white, and his nature appeared to be heavy and phlegmatic. There seem to be grounds for believing that some of these old dogs at any rate were smooth-coated, of the Great Dane kind, but there were probably also others that were rough. Goldsmith may have been measuring the height from the crown of the head and not from the withers, as we do, and before we condemn him for his exaggeration it should be noted that a much earlier writer spoke of them as being bigger of bone and limb than a colt.

The makings of the modern wolfhound do not go back farther than 1862, when the late Captain G. A. Graham, an Englishman, took an interest in the breed, which was nearly extinct, and set himself the task of reconstructing it. He managed to get a few dogs that he considered to be genuine specimens and, by crossing them with the deerhound at what is said to have been a cost of £20,000, he built the foundations of the dogs as we know them.



THE TALLEST OF DOGS, THE IRISH WOLFHOUND

T. Fall

RAMSHAW VISITS THE KHYBER PASS

By C. W. R. KNIGHT

WHEN Ramshaw, my tame eagle, and I set out on a recent tour of the Far East, I made up my mind that there were two things we must see—and, if possible, photograph: the Taj Mahal and the Khyber Pass. No difficulties present themselves where the former is concerned: you just go along—if you happen to be in the vicinity of Agra—with your camera and perhaps your friends, like all the other sightseers.

The Khyber Pass is different. Regulations must be complied with and transport and the necessary papers arranged. Being a civilian, how could I hope to do anything about it?

Good luck, however, was on our side. We had just put on a show—moving pictures and a demonstration of flight by Ramshaw—for an Army unit not far from Peshawar, when, seated in the officers' mess, I chanced to mention that I had bought a little box-camera.

"I've got some quite good pictures with it, too," I added. "When I get to Agra I want to take some of the Taj Mahal." At this one of the officers remarked, "How about a run through the Khyber Pass to-morrow? You ought to get some good snaps there. I believe there's a truck going. Why not take old Ramshaw on the arm of an Afghan warrior? You'll see some at the frontier." I thanked my friend profusely and so it was arranged.

On the following day we set out. As we made our way towards the truck a crowd of Indians gathered round to inspect Ramshaw at close quarters. Big Baz they called him (a goshawk is known among Indian falconers as a baz). That they were deeply impressed was shown by their head-noddings, muttered comments and knowing glances. My Pathan bearer, Ghulam, intensified their admiration by announcing that Ramshaw was indeed a Big Baz, capable of capturing such quarry as deer, hyenas—even tigers. At



RAMSHAW MAKES AN IMPRESSION ON A NATIVE CROWD AT THE START OF THE JOURNEY



OBSTACLES TO A POTENTIAL ENEMY ON THE ROAD

this there were more head-noddings and muttered "wah, wah" of astonishment.

Things were building up very prettily, I thought. What consternation Ramshaw was effecting! Surely any Afghan warrior would feel privileged to bear on his arm such a monarch of a bird.

The trip through the Pass was interesting, of course. Rugged, mountainous surroundings; two parallel roads with a signboard at their start indicating, by means of silhouettes of a camel and a car, that one is to be used by beasts of burden and the other by motor traffic; picket posts on the tops of more or less distant hills; concrete obstacles to delay the progress of any potential enemy. All very intriguing.

But what impressed me most—it was so unexpected that I experienced a sort of breath-taking paroxysm as I yelled to the driver to stop—was a close-up view of a bird that, as a youngster, I had read about and had learned to regard with a sort of fearful admiration—a lammergeyer. It looked magnificent; gliding along on outspread, motionless wings, and, though I had never seen one before, it was instantly identifiable. There was no mistaking it; the enormous wing-spread, the long, wedge-shaped tail; the black, white and orange colouring; and the curious, bristly, black moustaches.

It was indeed a lucky view of *Gypaetus barbatus*, the bearded vulture-eagle whose habit—we are told—it is to feed on the shattered remains of bones which it has

dropped on to rocks from enormous heights. Whether the lammergeyer indulges in this practice to any extent is doubtful. It would certainly have to be a remarkably good shot to ensure that such bones hit a rock and not its soft, sandy surroundings.

I watched the great bird as it rose, with no apparent motion of its wings, to a vast height, at which it joined, or was joined by, no fewer than five others. What a sight! Six lammergeyers—flying dragons, as they are sometimes called—soaring in the sky together. To me this was one of the most memorable experiences of our Indo-Malayan tour.

My companions did not, I regret to say, share my enthusiasm. Six vultures in the sky meant nothing to them. Besides, we had come especially to get the photograph of Ramshaw and the Afghan, and that was something they really were enthusiastic about. That was to be the *pièce de résistance* of the journey.

So we moved on again along the tortuous road that rose and fell astonishingly among the desolate fastnesses. And, in the end, our day turned out to be, photographically, a decided failure. The Afghan warriors refused to play. They were there all right, on the other side of the barbed wire, and seemed at first to be tremendously intrigued by Ramshaw's appearance on my arm as I got out of the truck. I smiled encouragingly as I walked towards them, quite expecting that they would be only too delighted to welcome us at close quarters, while Sergeant Turner produced the camera and prepared to take up his position as photographer.

At once the attitude of the sentries changed: they contemptuously turned up their noses and on their heels. When they haughtily sauntered off I felt quite humiliated, but consoled myself with the thought that we had at least reached and taken pictures at the frontier of India and had seen six lammergeyers in the air together.



RAMSHAW AND HIS OWNER AT THE FRONTIER

THE GEORGIAN SQUARES OF DUBLIN—II

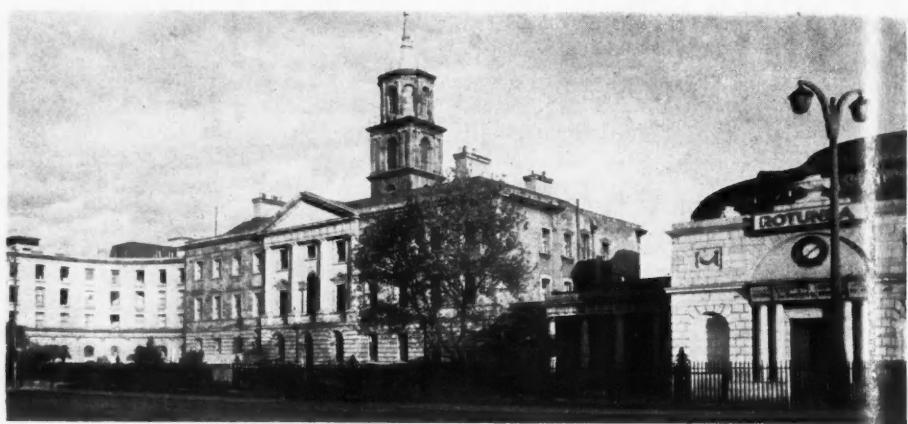
RUTLAND, MOUNTJOY, MERRION AND FITZWILLIAM SQUARES

By ELEANOR BUTLER

THE atmosphere in Dublin is clearer and more luminous than elsewhere. The streets and squares seen on a bright sunny morning or in the haze of an autumn evening, with the richness of the rusty-red and brown brickwork and the soft lines of the old lime pointing, gaily painted doors and delicate balconies, delight the eye, even while recalling a splendid way of life that has long ago passed.

It was in 1714 that Luke Gardiner, M.P., a Dublin banker and a remarkable man, to whose enterprise and good taste subsequent development is largely indebted, acquired a considerable area north of the Liffey. Gardiner envisaged a complete transformation of this part of the city, and planned to cover the sloping ground with stately streets and squares, and a Grand Crescent on the northernmost point. When he died in 1755 much had been achieved. Henrietta Street (1721), Cavendish Row (Rutland Square East) and Sackville Street, with its dignified greensward or garden down the centre, ornamented with trees and gravel walks, obelisks, and a graceful fountain, and known as Gardiner's Mall, were already finished. Rutland Square was completed, Mountjoy Square and the surrounding streets were carried out later, but the Grand Crescent was never built.

Of these two squares Rutland Square is by far the more important. It evolved as



RUTLAND SQUARE. ROTUNDA HOSPITAL AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS

Architect, Richard Cassels 1751-57

a gradual process of surrounding the Rotunda Gardens street by street. The east side, a continuation of Gardiner's Mall, was begun in 1750 and called Cavendish Row, after the 3rd Duke of Devonshire, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1737-45. The west side, opened 1766, was known

as Granby Row; the north side (Palace Row) was laid out in 1765. These three sides were incorporated as Rutland Square in 1786, while the south side never came into being, for it was occupied by the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital and the Assembly Rooms.

The hospital, the first charity of its kind, was founded by Dr. Mosse, an extraordinarily charitable, cultured and enterprising young man. He acquired a large site adjoining the then fashionable Sackville Street, and this he proceeded to lay out as a centre of fashionable and social activities intended as a source of revenue for the hospital.

In every facet of this project Dr. Mosse displayed his good taste and appreciation of the Arts. The hospital, begun in 1751 and opened in 1757, was designed by Richard Cassels; the Chapel contrasts with the simplicity of the exterior by the richness of its Rococo decoration carried out by Bartholemew Cramillion.

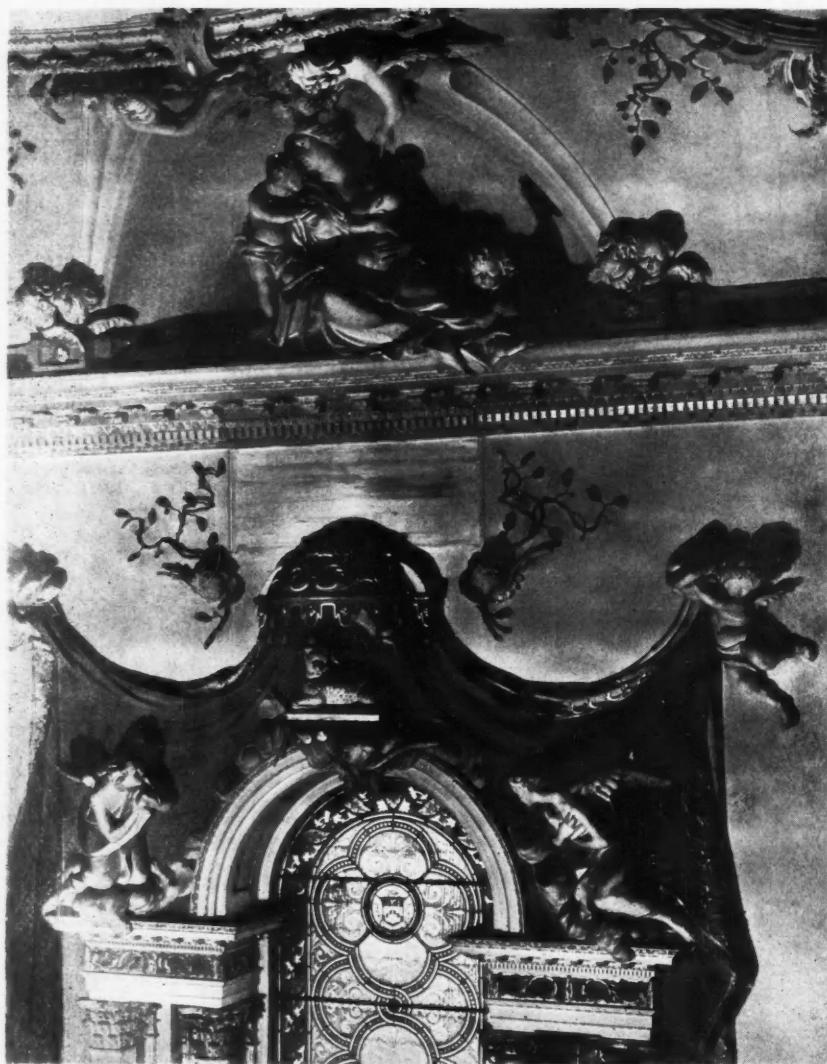
The group of buildings to the eastern corner of the hospital, forming the Assembly Rooms, were begun with the erection of the Round Room or Rotunda in 1764, designed by John Ensor. The Rotunda was the scene of many a brilliant assembly and ball, and the "New Gardens" became the Vauxhall of Dublin.

From the south side of the Square the ground rises sharply. The simple treatment of the brick exteriors, the repeating rhythm of the windows, and stepped parapets and broken sky line of the east and west sides lead the eye upwards towards Palace Row.

Charlemont House, its focal point, was designed by Sir William Chambers in 1762. The house stands in the centre of the Row, three storeys high, with a simple classical façade in stone and a shallow court in front with curved screen walls linking with the houses on either side. No other house in Dublin is richer in historical associations or more famed for its connections with many great men, for its owner—the first Earl of Charlemont—was both patriot and patron of the Arts. As a centre of society, politics, art and letters, Charlemont House was known as the "Holland House of Dublin."

Farther along the top of the hill, to the east of and linked up with—Rutland Square by handsome streets, lies Mountjoy Square. It is a small, regular and elegant Square consisting of 78 houses, nearly all equal in size. Laid out by Viscount Mountjoy, grandson of the first Luke Gardiner, the Square is shown in a plate in the *Picture of Dublin* (1802) as part of Lord Mountjoy's grandiose conception for the development of this area. This magnificent piece of planning was to have culminated in a Royal Circus at the highest point, larger than Merrion Square, and approached by radial roads from the south. Lack of money prevented the carrying out of this scheme. When Lord Mountjoy was killed at the Battle of New Ross in 1798, three sides of the Square, as it appears to-day, were then completed. He was succeeded by his son, Charles, 2nd Viscount, and later Earl of Blessington. The Royal Circus was never built.

The exteriors of the houses in Mountjoy Square are all of brick and similar in design. The skyline is unbroken; most of the houses are finished with a simple granite coping.



STUCCOES IN THE ROTUNDA HOSPITAL CHAPEL BY BARTHOLEMEW CRAMILLION



MOUNTJOY SQUARE ON AN AUTUMN EVENING

But there is great variety in the treatment of hall doors and fanlights, while the long windows of the drawing-rooms on the first floor have light and graceful wrought-iron balconies. Many of the houses were built by Dublin craftsmen, who were also master builders, such as Michael Stapleton, Pemberton and Charles Thorp, and contain fine plaster ceilings and decoration, which though influenced by the brothers Adam show originality in design and execution.

Of the Squares on the south side of the river, after St. Stephen's Green, Merrion Square is the largest. The erection of Leinster House gave an impetus to building resulting in an aristocratic migration to the neighbourhood. Rocque's map of Dublin of 1756 shows some five houses adjoining Leinster Lawn in that part of Merrion Street which is now Merrion Square West, and in 1762 Viscount Fitzwilliam of Merrion was induced to lay out a large square. The north side was begun in 1764, and a number of fine houses were built by Ralph Ward, Surveyor General of the Ordnance, John and George Ensor architects, and others.

Here the houses were superior to those of the east and south sides, including notable



THE EAST SIDE OF FITZWILLIAM SQUARE



MERRION SQUARE. SOUTH SIDE LOOKING TO ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH



RUTLAND SQUARE: "PALACE ROW" AND CHARLEMONT HOUSE
(From the Aquatint by James Malton)

mansions such as Antrim House, built in 1778 by George Ensor for the 6th Earl of Antrim, noted in the eighteenth century for his lavish hospitality. No. 12 is a handsome house with elaborate plaster decoration, carved wood panelling and beautiful mantelpieces, built in 1764 for William Brownlow, M.P. Nos. 23 and 25 are also fine houses, and were built by Ralph Ward. Numerous well-known people lived on this side of the Square. In the eighteenth century peers and Members of Parliament predominated, and the footway on the north side became the fashionable promenade.

Although the houses on this side of the Square vary considerably in height and in width, and the line of the parapets steps up and down, the whole presents a dignified and uniform effect. There is an infinite variety in the Classical treatment of hall doors and fanlights. The interiors are of the typical Dublin plan with staircase to the back, and spacious drawing-rooms on the first floor: they contain numerous examples of beautiful ceilings, inlaid Bossi mantelpieces, and enriched panelling.

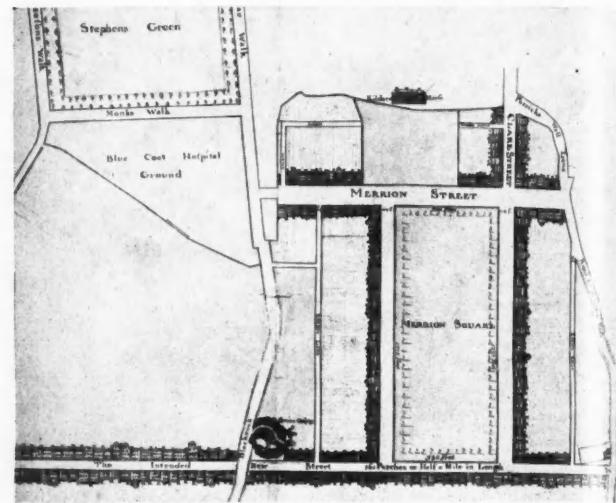
On the east and south sides of the Square the houses are smaller and less interesting. But one large house, now divided into two (Nos. 44 and 45), on the east side, is of particular note. Erected about 1785 by Gustavus Hume, it became the house of the 1st Viscount Gort. It has a large hall and fine circular stone staircase. This side of the Square was laid out by Samuel Sproule, architect, in 1780, and some of the leases of sites at the north

end were granted to him. Houses were being built as late as 1820. The south side was built between 1785 and 1795, and the names of no well-known architects are associated with it.

On the west side of the Square, Leinster Lawn at the back of Leinster House occupies the greater part. Begun in 1745 by the 20th Earl of Kildare, later Duke of Leinster, it is the stateliest and largest of the Dublin mansions. Designed by Richard Cassels, the plan of the house resembles more a country mansion than a town house, due probably to its magnificent open site. Only the garden front is seen from Leinster Lawn, as the house is actually built in Kildare Street, and therefore cannot properly be included as part of Merrion Square.

Facing the houses on the west side of the Square is a charming little pavilion known as The Fountain. It was erected in 1791 from the design of Henry Aaron Baker (partner of Gandon) for the Duke of Rutland. The medallions and sculptural ornament were made at Coade's factory at Lambeth.

Near Merrion Square, and connected by a wide thoroughfare, Fitzwilliam Street, lies Fitzwilliam Square, the last of the Dublin Squares. Called after Viscount Fitzwilliam of Merrion, born in 1740, who died a bachelor leaving his estates to his nephew, the Earl of Pembroke, Fitzwilliam Square does not appear on Rocque's map of 1765, but in a subsequent plan for the further development of his property



DEVELOPMENT PLAN OF MERRION SQUARE, 1762
By courtesy of the Pembroke Estate Office

submitted for the approval of the Wide Streets Commissioners in 1791 the Square is shown marked out for building.

In the same year the first leases were granted, and the building of houses commenced on the north side. The west and east sides were begun about 1798, but houses were still being built in 1810 and 1814. It is much smaller than Merrion Square, and the houses, though of brick and similar in character, are not so large or so ornate inside. They are, however, remarkably well finished and the Square presents a dignified whole.

Completed for the most part after the Union, Fitzwilliam Square has not the same associations with the notabilities of the eighteenth century as the other Squares, but nevertheless is connected with a fashionable society, the legal luminaries of the past, and to this day with the medical profession.

In no other characteristic is the 18th-century architecture of Dublin displayed to fuller advantage than in the dignified design and unified planning of its streets and squares. The squares play an essential part in the city's plan, for they provide all the elements of variety and surprise, of restfulness and seclusion. Street after street of magnificent houses are linked together, and the more important ones flow into the squares, past the green lawns and flowering shrubs, continue on again, and perhaps gently curve into a crescent with an elegant church in the centre terminating the vista, or lead the eye on to a distant view of the mountains.



MERRION SQUARE: THE FOUNTAIN, 1791
Erected by the Duke of Rutland. Architect, Henry A. Baker



A TYPICAL DOORWAY IN RUTLAND SQUARE,
The houses in the square were built between 1750 and 1786

THE CULTIVATION OF BEANS

By H. I. MOORE

THE quest for more home-grown protein in recent years has brought one of our oldest crops, beans, into the forefront of many cropping schemes. Whereas in 1939 there were about 135,000 acres under the crop in the United Kingdom, by 1944 this had grown to 289,000 acres, representing an increase of 114 per cent. In some respects beans can be regarded as the favourite source of protein for, being a grain crop, they are grown, harvested and threshed in much the same manner, and with the same tackle as wheat or oats. Their cultivation does not necessitate the adoption of new techniques or the purchase of additional equipment, and, when mixed with oats in equal parts by weight, a first-class balanced ration is formed and it can be fed at the rate of 4 lb. to the gallon of milk.

Though they fit in so well with the system of farming in many districts there is, unfortunately, one serious drawback to the more widespread cultivation of this crop, namely the fickleness which they display in yielding propensities. In the last four years many farmers have discontinued growing the crop and have sought a more reliable means of supplying protein from their own land. Why is this?

* * *

From earliest times beans have been regarded as a heavy land crop and one which responds in a marked fashion to dressings of farm-yard manure. Now clay is very retentive of soil moisture, while dung is without compare in its ameliorating action on the soil by the provision of humus which has such beneficial influence on both heavy and light soils alike. In addition it supplies plant food. The very early writers on the subject of bean-growing took pains to emphasise the fact that "beans delight in a moist soil," which accounts in the main for the fact that their cultivation is found chiefly on heavy land and also that generous dunging is helpful. The point so frequently overlooked, however, is that an adequate supply of moisture when podding commences is vital and it is then that the retentive capacity for moisture of heavy land and humus is shown to such good effect. In many cases in recent years I have noted crops which showed great early promise fail to fulfil that promise at harvest time while examination of the soil at regular intervals during the growing season showed a general tendency to dryness.

But while moisture undoubtedly plays a vital part in the successful cultivation of beans, other factors must be taken into account; failure to recognise their importance may account for partial, or even complete, failure of the crop. A surfeit of water, for instance, is worse than paucity, and it is folly to attempt to grow beans under waterlogged conditions. Any tendency to undue wetness on very heavy land should be counteracted by drawing water furrows, or even growing the crop in narrow lands or stetches, say 8 ft. wide, to allow more open furrows which will assist the drainage. Equally important is the provision of a sweet soil, and a lime test is invariably a sound preliminary to the preparation of a field to receive the crop of beans. Many of the crops grown on ploughed-out grass have suffered from lime deficiency, while a phosphate deficiency can be equally disastrous.

* * *

The actual form of lime or phosphate used is of minor importance to the quantity applied; this must be adequate for the needs of the crop. In many cases the lack of potash experienced in the war years has adversely affected the results obtained, and, now that supplies are once more coming through, a potash determination on any potential bean land is a wise precaution. Potash certainly seems to save beans from the worst effects of that scourge of beans, chocolate spot. Balanced feeding is of prime importance for beans as for other crops, but in this case it does seem of considerable moment to ensure that the land is in good heart before sowing the seed. Last-minute measures to rectify soil deficiencies

—though obviously unavoidable in some cases—cannot be expected to produce the same good effects as are likely to be obtained by careful planning well in advance.

Quite apart from the direct feeding of the crop, success depends upon the plants' securing plenty of light and air. Overcrowding is frequently a cause of poor podding, and one has only to recall what happens to the beans in the kitchen garden to find confirmation for the importance of adequate spacing. Yet it is essential, of course, to secure a full plant, and since winter beans are not completely winter hardy a seeding of up to 2 cwt. per acre is frequently justified.

If all the plants come through safely they will be too thick on the ground and a good harrowing in spring is needed. Better by far, however, to thin out than have recourse to patching. When the latter process is necessary then it is generally more satisfactory to patch with dun peas than with spring beans, for the former, when drilled in March, ripen about the same time as the beans. Rate of seeding is naturally related to the time of sowing, less seed being needed for the earliest sowings. In the first half of October, 1½ cwt. of seed sown at 4 inches deep can be regarded as a general guide, while towards the end of the month the seeding should be increased up to 2 cwt. per acre but the depth of drilling should not exceed 2 inches. Drilling is invariably better than broadcasting, and in my experience every effort should be made to get the crop in before the end of October and most certainly not later than mid-November, after which date the results are seldom satisfactory. No hard-and-fast rules can be given and each must choose the method, time and rate of seeding to suit the prevailing soil and climatic conditions. The favourite spacing for the rows is 18-20 inches, to facilitate inter-row cultivation and yet allow a full crop ultimately to meet in the rows and smother annual weeds.

THE DONKEY

AS the result of a slight misunderstanding, we have recently become possessed of an ass. It seems that there were two raffles in progress at the dance and my wife had been under the impression that she had risked her five shillings for the glittering prospect of a bottle of anonymous gin. That I, by some fluke of fortune won the gin caused, we felt, a certain amount of justifiable suspicion.

In the sequel a rather distant donkey was delivered on our doorstep and has been busy eating down our derelict lawn tennis court and borders ever since, tended by some member of the family to head him off the rarer plants which still remain to us from the chances of the war years. At intervals he unbends sufficiently to provide rides for the youngest member of the household with an aptitude which suggests an earlier connection with the beach of some seaside resort. He has, of course, been christened Raffle.

* * *

At night he shares an unsuitable lodging with the hens and is inclined to take an interest in their menu. Although he does not seem ill-content, we realise that the present set-up cannot continue indefinitely and the prospects for his winter arrangements are weighing us down.

Great care, we know, has to be exercised in keeping our legitimate number of hens alive and in sufficiently good laying form for even our modest aspirations if we are to escape the clutches of the law, and we are careful to study every regulation as it appears. Indeed, such study practically takes the place of the Daily Press, which we are on the whole inclined to avoid by reason of the depression of spirits which it induces in general, and the horrid tales of the penalties inflicted on livestock keepers in particular, should their feet stray even momentarily from the straight path.

But we have found no reference to asses. As the capacity of our garden as a diet

A clean bean stubble is still regarded as a sign of a high standard of cultivation.

Little work has been done on the question of bean varieties, and the winter bean is about the only type in general cultivation. A selection made by Dr. Hunter at Cambridge (No. 7) some years ago proved rather more prolific and a good tillering strain, and indicated that there is scope for research work in this direction. Some farmers aver that bean stocks have deteriorated in recent years, but there is no reliable evidence in support of this contention, and at Saxmundham Experimental Station in Suffolk, where observations were made on the crop for some 30 consecutive years, the results obtained showed no deterioration in the stocks.

Many disappointing results are due, wholly or in part, to attacks by insect pests, notably the black aphis and bean weevil, or to the diseases stem rot and chocolate spot. Black aphis is usually more likely to cause serious damage to spring beans than to the winter type, while occasionally, as in 1917, bean weevils cause considerable damage to the young plants by eating the foliage in early spring. When the plants begin to wilt and die off in March, April or May, stem rot disease can be suspected and, since control measures are not possible, patching with peas, which appear to be unaffected by this disease, may be necessary; but here, as with so many diseases, the adoption of a sound rotation is the best means of avoiding the trouble.

The cultivation of beans is likely to provide many problems for the research worker, yet the fact that the crop has acquired a somewhat doubtful reputation should not mean its exclusion from farming practice. Given the right type of home, adequate and sensible nutrient, and a favourable season, there is no reason why the crop should not play its part in providing the much-needed protein which our dairy and beef-producing herds are so urgently requiring.

By LIONEL DAWSON

diminishes in accordance with the laws of Nature, we can see no future for the ass unless we have him in the house to take his chance with us, a solution which we feel would much appeal to him if his recent incursion into the kitchen and thence to the larder door be any criterion.

A friendly farmer—but no, even anonymously, the source is better not mentioned—let us say instead that we have become conspiratorially possessed of a sack or two of mangolds which we are careful to offer to the ass only after night has fallen and in the privacy of our loose-box-cum-chicken-run. We are not convinced, however, of the protein adequacy of such a food even if our nerve permits us to continue it.

* * *

The village fête seemed to offer a solution, but that has not turned out quite as we intended. We had decided to harden our hearts and, disregarding the plaints of the youngest member, or rather by disguising the operation as an adventurous form of game, to re-raise our prize. The committee were wholeheartedly in favour, and the deed was done.

Once again there were two raffles—a chicken was what I was actually after, no regulation appearing to exist whereby I could come within the attentions of the law if I won. But the sale of tickets on the ground being controlled by confused children and giggling girls, error crept in.

It was unfortunate that, once again, we brought off the double; a long day ending with the announcement that I'd won back the ass and my wife had gained the chicken as well. Once again we sensed that the feeling of the meeting was against us. The youngest member, however, was delighted and entirely approves of the new game, while the ass, profiting by our absence, had a splendid day in the more refined part of the garden. There the matter rests at present.

DID GUY FAWKES START BONFIRE NIGHT?

By RALPH JEFFERSON

RECENT announcements that this year there will once again be fireworks in plenty for the celebration of Bonfire Night recall the large-scale fire festivals held on November the Fifth in times gone by. They left one wondering how the memory of an age-old religious feud could have been kept so green and vigorous for so many generations among a people not much given to hatred either of men or doctrines.

Was the hatred genuine when, with venomous glee and hilarious derision, the effigies of the Pope and the infernal Guido Fawkes were first taunted and then, amid yells of triumph, committed to the flames? Or was it just a glorious annual spree for grown-up children? Or was it, as anthropologists some time ago began to suggest, a renewal of the childhood of the race; a reversion for one night a year to the days of paganism, of the sacrifice of a victim or victims—whose place the effigies took—in a fire which represented the all-powerful and (if properly propitiated) all-beneficent sun? There is no doubt as to the persistence of the spree-element, but, for all the riot and rumpus, that cannot account for all. What, then, is the enduring *leitmotiv*? The memory of ancient wrong or the unconscious memory of the race?

The three English towns in which the November Fire Festival was so long maintained in full vigour are Bridgwater, Somerset, Ludlow, Shropshire, and Lewes in Sussex. All are ancient country towns where, since very early times, local tradition has underlain much independence of spirit. In the Middle Ages their Norman castles and flourishing religious foundations



1.—A REPRODUCTION OF A PAINTING SHOWING THE LAST OF THE GREAT BONFIRES TO BE LIT IN THE MIDDLE OF LEWES HIGH STREET

typified the struggle between the feudal and the foreign ecclesiastical powers. At Lewes the great Cluniac Priory of St. Pancras was among the richest of the monasteries, but it was subject to the control of a foreign foundation and transmitted much of its wealth annually to the parent house at Cluny. When the King's Commissioners came to Lewes in 1537 they found no difficulty in pleasing King Harry by a thoroughly unfavourable report and the demolition of the great Priory began immediately.

In some ways the good citizens of Lewes benefited, as well as the landowners who were directly enriched; but "the shade of that which once was great" must have rested heavily on men's minds and have provided a background tense with religious, as well as political, embitterment for the coming of the Marian persecution. Of the twenty-six Sussex martyrs, seventeen were burned in front of the Star Inn, now the town hall of Lewes.

The obelisk of the Martyrs' Memorial stands on the opposing slope of Cliffe Hill at a spot where, just half a century after these burnings, the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot was first celebrated and the traditional celebration was begun. It was undoubtedly the first burning of Guy Fawkes and Pope Paul in effigy, but was it an occasion without precedent? There can be no doubt as to the intensity throughout the country of the anti-Catholic feeling which provoked the

burning of the effigies in 1606, and just as little doubt that the discovery of the plot was made on November 5 a year before. So that if the burning of effigies on bonfires on November 5, had been an earlier custom, the unmasking of Guido in the Parliament cellars on that particular day seems a remarkable coincidence.

On the other hand there was quite enough emotional tinder in the country to start a new custom and to keep it going. At Lewes, for instance, the feelings of those who had witnessed or heard at first hand of the infamous burnings on the opposite hill are surely sufficient to account for a passionate zeal in organising the fiery spectacle and in keeping the tradition green among their children and descendants.

Yet, is it fantastic to suppose a definite pre-history of this custom with an older significance now masked by the political and religious animosities of relatively modern times? Probably we should none of us consider this suggestion very seriously had it not been seriously made by students of repute. If there were, for instance, some authentic record of a November Fire Festival at Lewes (or at Ludlow, let us say) before the year 1606, the matter would take on another complexion. But if there be one, we have never heard of it.

It is, however, interesting to speculate whether: the bonfire is a survival of primeval New Year magic; a modern meaning has simply been attached to an ancient traditional practice; the Lewes Bonfire Boys are the successors of sacrificial priests; the Guy and the Pope are representations of the spirit of vegetation, and whether, by burning them or their prototypes in a sun-begotten fire, our ancestors claimed sunshine for their crops for the ensuing year. When wise men suggest such things we feel at once that, in the childhood of the race as in our own, many magical things must have happened.

But why a New Year in November? The last thing I wish to do is to follow the complicated discussions about the original date of the Teutonic and Celtic New Years, but it certainly does seem reasonable to suppose that, in an early agricultural community in Western Europe, the New Year would begin when the harvest was over and the farmer's year had ended; when the cattle that could not be carried through the winter had to be slaughtered; when new crops had to be sown; and when a carry-over of the sun's benevolence was a thing greatly to be desired. Then, surely, was the time for feasting and junketing and such homeopathic magic as was likely to assist the sun in his struggle with the powers of darkness.

Not to labour the subject, it may be taken

GUNPOWDER PLOT ANNIVERSARY.



LEWES BOROUGH BONFIRE SOCIETY.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1886.

PROGRAMME OF PROCESSIONS.

A BAND FROM BURMAH (IN NATIVE COSTUME),

Will be in attendance, and form part in each Procession.

1.—THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY will assemble at HEAD QUARTERS at HALF-PAST FIVE, and start immediately for the Bridge with Six Tar Barrels, the Company returning to Head Quarters, after *Pitching a Fire opposite the County Hall*.

2.—To start from the SWAN INN, SOUTHOWER, at QUARTER-PAST SEVEN o'clock, in the following order:

Pioneers. Triangles of Torches. Colors—The Metal Flag of England. Triangles of Torches. Pioneers.
New Banner presented by Lewes—*“A YOUNG TOWN EVER PROSPER.”*

Staff-Bearer. Commander-in-Chief. Officers. Inspector-General.

Lieutenants in full Costume, with Coloured Fins, &c. Banner—“Borough Bonfire Boys,” with the Motto of the Society, “Death or Glory.”

THE SOCIETY'S CELEBRATED BRASS BAND.

NEW BANNER—“May we never Engage in a Bad Cause, or Flinch from a Good One.”

THE LORD BISHOP OF LEWES.

THE PRIOR OF ST. PANCRAS.

Large Banner—“NO POPERY.”

Large Banner—“Welcome, Visitors, Welcome—Protect our Queen and Constitution.” Banner—“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.”

** FOUR LARGE HOGSHEADS AND SIX TAR BARRELS. **

This Procession will pass through SOUTHOWER, along PRIORY STREET, up STATION STREET, to the FIRE.

4.—To start from Astley House, St. Ann's, at 8.15, with Band, Banners, Hogsheads, Tar Barrels, &c., to the Bridge, One Barrel to be thrown over as customary. Here a Friendly Greeting will take place between the Borough and Cliffe Societies, and then return to the Fire.

5.—A RUN FROM HEAD QUARTERS TO THE FIRE WITH TAR BARRELS.

2.

or granted that the Bonfire Boys of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries did not regard themselves as priests practising homeopathic magic for the benefit of the autumn-sown wheat or the augmented fertility of the Sussex cattle and Southdown ewes. Whatever its subliminal basis in long-forgotten custom their fervour, to themselves at least, appeared to be based solidly on political and religious convictions.

The delightful *Recollections of a Sussex Parson*, which is the autobiography of the Rev. Edward Boys Ellman, grandson of the founder of the Southdown breed, and himself for more than half a century rector of Berwick hard by, gives us a general idea of the madness of the celebrations in Regency days. The rector, who died in 1806, remembered to the day of his death "a rocket coming through the window and falling on the bed where I lay in the night nursery." If this experience, or even worse, has been common in nurseries of recent years, the fact that he was born a few months after the battle of Waterloo shows that his memory was long and his testimony good.

Were the Bonfire Boys much wilder than in our own days? Mr. Ellman tells us that "on Guy Fawkes Day all business had to be stopped, and by the afternoon the inhabitants of the High Street had to barricade their windows and doors with thick boards to protect the glass and prevent them being smashed by rioters." So, indeed, did wise shopkeepers and cautious householders up to the very beginning of the recent war. Here, however, is an interesting point. Lewes patriots in modern times have always claimed that the rowdyism in what would otherwise be a law-abiding ceremonial, has been imported from Brighton. Mr. Ellman notes that in Regency days hundreds of young bucks, on trouble bent, would come over from Brighton masked and would slip into the processions unidentified.

For much more than a century the Fifth has been regarded by Lewes folk from a serious civic point of view. The division of the revellers into societies corresponding with wards of the town has corresponded, in turn, with an annual organisation of the inhabitants on a genuine social basis, with charitable as well as festive ends in view. The planning of elaborate processions, the elaboration of a vast variety of costumes—for though the procedure may be traditional the setting and dresses must move with the times—has provided opportunity for much social diversion and activity. And despite occasional clashes on the night, the healthy spirit of rivalry between the societies has added a flavour to civic affairs.

It would, however, be idle to pretend that Lewesians have always been on the side of law and order on these occasions. It seems to have been in 1829, just before the accession of William IV, that the ritual celebration was first enlivened by the dragging and rolling of blazing tar-barrels through the streets, and in particular their rolling, amid frenzied excitement, down School Hill to the bridge and the river. By the time Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837 the authorities were growing restive, and it was in the following year that a determined attempt on the part of the magistrates to suppress the proceedings led to serious rioting.

It was not until 1847 that another great effort was made to stop the Bonfire once and for all. Whether this was due to the prevalent fear of aiding world revolution in those stormy days, or whether the local magistrates were again responsible, does not appear, but large



3.—A CONTEMPORARY PICTURE OF THE SCENE AT A LEWES FIRE FESTIVAL A CENTURY AGO, WITH MASKED FIGURES IN THE PROCESSION AND BLAZING TAR-BARRELS BEING ROLLED THROUGH THE STREETS

numbers of London police were drafted into the town and their downright attempts at suppression provoked the local *amour propre* to such an extent that rioting became universal. Lord Chichester was called upon to read the Riot Act from Lewes Bridge and there is a story that his lordship was either with difficulty rescued from the Ouse or was suspended over it by his legs until he promised to go home to Stanmer.

The result of this open battle was, oddly enough, a reversion to more kindly methods of control. Permission was given for two great bonfires to be lit in the main street—one in the Cliffe district by the river and the other in the middle of the High Street. These were the centres of revelry until, after 1905, the police were instructed to prevent all fires and fireworks in the streets. The tar-barrels disappeared and the hey-day of the Bonfire Boys was at an end.



4—BONFIRE “PRAYERS”

A collection of Bonfire programmes covering the past hundred years would be a valuable documentation of history. The number of hogsheads and tar-barrels in the processions varied with the societies, and banners and mottoes were changed from year to year. One year it might be "Long Life and Happiness to our Sailor Prince and his Bride"—there was always a loyal inscription of some sort beside the invariable "No Popery"—and the forces of law and order can have had little objection to the constant prayer "May Our Town Ever Prosper!"

A typical programme of this period is that of the Borough Society for 1886 (Fig. 2). There is surely something very piquant to-day in the announcement that "A Band from Burmah (in native costume) will be in attendance." The Burmese War of those days seems very far away now. The regimental march of the Burmese Boys appears to have been "Slap, bang, here we are again!" which perhaps their successors might like to adopt.

In the vast confusion of lights on Bonfire Night photography of any sort was, and still is, extremely difficult. But efforts were made to record the annual scene pictorially and the series of paintings, reproductions of some of which illustrate this article, give a good idea of the lurid and engaging spectacle of Guido and his Pope being committed to the flames with the appropriate ritual. Fig. 1 shows the last of the great bonfires in the middle of the High Street and the central figure in the foreground serves to identify it, without too much conjecture, with the period of the South African War. Fig. 3 is a much older painting, belonging to the more troublesome times a century ago when the Bonfire Boys went masked to avoid identification.

After 1905 the processions of torch-bearers continued to march, but the individual societies carried out their own ritual round bonfires on open spaces within their own borders. What, it will be asked, is the nature of the famous Bonfire Prayers recited at the moment of committal by "the Lord Bishop of Lewes"—assisted sometimes, it would appear, by "the Prior of St. Pancras," who seems so oddly out of place? One would like to think that in the old days "the Prayers" were something in the nature of a fiery Commination Service. To-day, at any rate, they are nothing other, as the official copy shows (Fig. 4), than the celebrated jingle "Remember, Remember."

SEASON'S END — A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

WITH the Masters' Tournament at Stoneham and the rather more lighthearted Mixed Foursomes at Worplesdon, the professional and amateur seasons may be said to have come to an end respectively, and the professionals, at any rate, must be very tired men and glad to retire to their winter quarters. They had already got into their stride last year, while the amateurs had scarcely begun to do more than get the feel of their clubs: they have had a summer of almost continuous tournaments and the names of their leaders have become nearly as familiar in the newspapers as those of the League football players will be for the next seven months or so.

The presence of those two fine golfers from the Dominions, Locke and Von Nida, and, of course, that of the American invaders in the Open Championship, have added a spice of international excitement. If some of us have perhaps grown a little weary of reading of those continual 72 holes of score play, the general interest has been great and sustained, and professional golf has been "put on the map" with a very large and, to a considerable extent, a new public. The names of the leading lights of what amounts to a travelling circus are now more widely known than they ever were before. This is often said, in one of those phrases which are used without any precise analysis of their meaning, to be "all for the good of the game." It is, at any rate, all for the good of the leading professionals, and it is a benefit to which they are wholly entitled.

* * *

One noteworthy fact, in any retrospect of this long-drawn-out professional season is that it has produced practically no new names. In the summer of 1945 it seemed for a moment that we were seeing the arrival of a fresh generation of champions and the toppling of the old ones off their pedestals. This was a rash generalisation, founded on insufficient premises at a time when few players had got into anything like full practice. This summer, with everyone once more in his regular stride, recognised leaders have re-asserted themselves. Some of the older of them, with the inevitable years, have slipped back a little, but the known have repelled the challenge of the unknown.

Horne, who won the *News of the World* tournament last summer, may not have quite lived up to that standard, but he has proved himself several times to be a really good player. On the other hand, Shoesmith, who suddenly burst into fame by winning the *Star* tournament and beating Henry Cotton at Mid-Surrey, has, as far as I know, made no mark whatever this summer. Of several young players it would be unfair to use the old metaphor of the rocket and stick; all we can say is that we have at present heard no more of them and that they may or may not come again.

There is, at any rate, one exception. Nobody here had heard of the Irishman Daly till the *Daily Mail* tournament at St. Andrews in 1945; he was winning till he had only four or five holes to play, and even after a disaster, came very near the top of the list. This summer he has done a number of good things, including the winning of the Open Championship of his native country, and has constantly been there or thereabouts. His is the obvious name among the new ones, when we think of a Ryder Cup side from America, and, as far as I can see, it is as yet the only one.

* * *

Of the names that were already famous before the war—and I leave out the obvious one of Snead, the Open Champion, since he does not belong to us—two seem to me to stand out, those of Locke and Cotton. In the score play tournaments, Locke, judged by statistics and, indeed, by the continuous merit of his achievements, comes first. He has won more tournaments than anyone else and has had the lowest average score through a long and trying season. Equally in match play Cotton comes first. There have, it is true, been only two match play tournaments, the *Star* at Wentworth and the *News of the World* at Hoylake, but in both of them Cotton

has swept through to victory with the most majestic imaginable stride. It is fair to say that only once in a match has he been pushed, and then he was pushed very hard—by Locke at Hoylake. I cannot think that anyone in this country would encounter him with any real hope in a big-money match over 72 holes, and by that I mean a genuine combat, not one in which some enterprising party puts up all the money for the match to be played on a particular course and calls it a "challenge match."

Locke is in a different category. I read that a supporter of his in South Africa has cabled that he will back him for a considerable sum in a match against Cotton next year, and assuredly there would be no want of backing on the other side. That would be a match. I hope it may be played on two courses whose qualifications are beyond cavil. I will hobble round with it, though it kills me and I see "only the 'oofs of the 'orses." It would be worth all scoring tournaments in creation, but the battlefield must be worthy of the battle.

* * *

There is a number of others who have done well, but this is not a statistical article and I will only mention a few of them here. Rees has been Locke's nearest pursuer in the score play and has had a fine season of it, doing his greatest deeds, moreover, on the greatest of courses, namely, the Old Course at St. Andrews, since he won the Spalding tournament there and also achieved that truly wonderful 67 there in the Open Championship. If it had not been that incredibly calamitous seven at the first hole in the last round—but I must not allow myself any ifs.

R. A. Whitcombe, though the years are mounting up, has played with scarcely diminished fire. Von Nida, Sutton, Lees and Ward have had constantly to be reckoned with. Faulkner, though rather an in-and-out performer so far, has shown himself capable of brilliant things. And then there is Adams. After constantly maintaining his reputation as champion runner-up, he at last broke through in the final tournament and tied for first place with Locke. That may have done him all the good in the world, and it was delightful to see it.

The professionals have rather run away with my pen as they have run away with the public attention all through the summer, and

left me little room for the amateurs. The amateur season has been, by comparison, a truncated one with some of its pleasantest features still in abeyance. There has been no Halford-Hewitt Cup, but, please goodness, there will be one next spring at Deal, just as there will be a President's Putter at Rye in January. There has been no international tournament between the four countries, but there has been one admirable substitute in the "unofficial" match between England and Scotland at Western Gailes, and for myself I admit that I thoroughly enjoyed watching a two-day friendly match against the ancient enemy, with a mind wholly undistracted by other wishes or hostilities.

* * *

In the amateur world more new names have come up than among the professionals. To be gallant and put the ladies first, this is certainly true in their case. Mrs. Hetherington, Miss Garvey and Miss Ruttle are already three good new ones, and those who know tell me that Miss Garvey is beyond all doubt the real, unmistakable thing. Among the men, the name of the Amateur Champion, James Bruen, is not new at all, though he is still quite young, but those two young Lancashire golfers, White and Bell, are genuinely new, and so among the Scotsmen are Brown, Williamson and one or two others. Ireland has clearly a very fine player in Carr, though alas! I have not seen him. And this new growth is cheering because of the welcome piece of news that has just been revealed (I knew it before but must needs keep silence), namely that there will be a Walker Cup match at St. Andrews next spring. It was our turn to go there, but the difficulties of finance and travel were great under present regulations, and so the Americans, in a spirit that deserves the too often abused epithet "sporting," have agreed to come here.

"Data, Data!" as Sherlock Holmes used to exclaim; we may seem not to have much to go on as yet in choosing our side and we certainly have not got quite as much as we should like. Still a friend of mine, as confident a judge of golf as he is a good one, announced the other day that he was prepared to choose a team there and then, and I am bound to say that it sounded good. Our Selection Committee did a noble work in 1938, and I don't doubt they will do it again though their time be short.

A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

By EILUNED LEWIS

THE true country-lover prefers, on the whole, his countryside in the winter, finding by comparison with the pleasures of spring a deeper and less restless joy in the fall of the leaf and the emergence of tree and hedge-row into naked grace. Nor is it only the bare beauty of the landscape that lightens his spirits; it is the unsociable thought (for the countryman is not by nature gregarious) that now he has his love to himself and need not share it with any interloping townsman. Only the people who "belong" are to be found in the country by the beginning of November, for the wise townsman follows Disraeli's advice and returns to the city in time to hear "the first tinkle of the muffin bell."

The little seaside resorts follow the fashion of the countryside and nowhere is the re-assertion of placid proprietorship more marked. There the whole way of life which has reigned since Easter is suddenly reversed. Natives who let their houses for small fortunes return thankfully home; landladies, having lived the lives of inverted moles in their own premises from April to October, resume possession of the best bedrooms and the front sitting-rooms. The vicar and the hotel-keeper take their holidays, and those who are left, strolling in the mellow sunshine, are pleasantly aware that only familiar faces will meet them and familiar voices greet their ears. The visitors in their startling clothes have folded their tents like the Arabs, and the ladies who run the gift shop can now take the

tea-cosies, the painted fir cones and the expensive lamp shades out of their windows. Except for a desperate week or two before Christmas, no one is likely to be led away by such lures.

Yet there is something more than selfishness and a back-into-your-shell attitude about this state of mind; there is the quiet joy of possession. For months the secrets of the place have been shared with strangers who misunderstood the ways and always mispronounced the names. Now the invaders have gone, thinking that all the beauty is spent, and not knowing (how could they?) that—

The late year has grown fresh again and new As spring.

The little bays are empty, the tides flow in and out on printless sands, and the waterfalls, more splendid than ever, leap headlong and unobserved through the glowing bracken. It is not only the gardeners who find in autumn the very essence of the year.

THE miserable shortage of milk which again this winter faces everyone not possessed of a cow, revives the age-long question—to keep or not to keep goats? In the case of so ancient and cynical a creature one suspects that this has always been a problem, and that since the beginning of things Man, confronted by the species, has occasionally asked himself: Is it worth while?

I speak as an ignoramus, although I have

helped to milk a melancholy animal which lived at the bottom of our school garden, and once during the war I, perhaps foolishly, refused a spectacular offer of two nannies and a kid for £5. They belonged to a gallant colonel who liked milk with his coffee and always carried a supply with his baggage in patriarchal fashion. Only when it came to sharing the landing-craft on the beaches of Normandy were the goats left behind and offered at what is termed a "sacrifice."

Such sacrificial animals would to-day fetch twenty or thirty guineas each, and I have begun counting up the reasons against possessing them. For example, they will eat not only the choicest shrubs, but the bark of the best apple-trees. When far removed from orchard and shrubbery, they will not oblige by keeping down the nettles, but choose only here and there a few tender stalks. If they are to give a good supply of milk all the year round they should be fed on linseed cake and crushed oats, to obtain which one must surrender the ordinary milk ration. They need

a shed for protection from severe weather, but, even so, are liable to catch a chill and die, being surprisingly delicate creatures. These seem a formidable bunch of disadvantages. Perhaps I am too timorous, yet I cannot help remembering poor Monsieur Seguin and fancying that, like him, I should never have any luck with my goats.

THE way in which the public has taken the Pony Club movement to its heart grows yearly more evident. One of the signs is the number of books on the subject which fill the children's section of every bookshop; well-produced books in which the artist often appears to outshine the writer in skill. But the children are well content and their elders thereby helped to clear the frequent birthday fences.

That it is good for a child to understand and manage a pony goes without saying, but it was only this year that I realised how useful a pony or two can be on holiday as a means of transport for short legs, and as a method of keeping

parents and children together. A riding tour is too elaborate in these days, since most of us have nothing to ride and the question of transporting baggage on horseback has never been satisfactorily solved. Yet without a mount of any sort on holiday, walks are confined to perambulations along the margin of the sea or to short excursions inland, while a couple of ponies will allow the whole family party to push its way into the neighbouring foothills or up on to the moors and fells.

On this occasion eight-year-old and seven-year-old were competent to go their own gait, and with the wind blowing through hair and mane would wait on some far hilltop the toiling upward climb of their elders. As for the ponies, they looked as happy and expectant as the children and clearly realised that they were performing a service. A pony resembles a child in disliking aimless exercise. "If you can't find an errand for a ride, come back on a different line" was a dictum of my father. A bored horse is as poor a companion as a bored man.

RINGING SHEARWATERS BY NIGHT

By PATRICK BACON

I WASN'T prepared for a gay night-life when I spent a week on the remote and rocky island of Skokholm off the tip of Pembrokeshire. However, I had counted without the shearwaters—those shy and lovely seabirds, black on top and white underneath, which annually migrate over vast distances and whose largest summer colonies are to be found on these Pembrokeshire islands.

Catching and ringing the shearwaters is only one of the many interesting activities of the Field Study Centre which, under the auspices of the West Wales Field Society, performs such useful work for the ornithological world in these parts. The Centre has its headquarters on the island of Skomer and on this and the neighbouring but more distant, Skokholm weekly batches of enthusiasts led by a resident warden, who is an experienced ornithologist, carry out observation, the collection of data and the ringing of the land and sea migrants from early spring till autumn. I found, as do many others, that catching and ringing the shearwaters was the highlight of this working holiday. The puffins may be more amusing birds and catching them in daylight a more skilled accomplishment; the oyster-catcher may have a prettier voice and the razorbill and guillemot a prettier flight; but the shearwater is everybody's darling and provides, as I say, the night-life.

The first essential is a nasty night. No moon, low cloud and a sea fret make ideal conditions for the hunt. Perhaps "hunt" is the wrong word, for the birds do not take much finding—and not over-much catching! As one steps out into the dark mist one hears a strange chorus all around. Imagine a cuckoo-clock which wants a little oil in its mechanism, a turtle-dove trying to be sick and a man gargling; then merge the sounds together into a rhythm of dot-dot-dash or dot-dot-dot-dash and you get some idea of the voice of a shearwater. It is comic and faintly disgusting and the effect is more than a little eerie.

In the air all around the birds are whirring about, often touching or even bumping into one's head. But the strange cooings and gurglings also emanate from under the ground. For the shearwater nests during the summer months in rabbit burrows. The whole of these islands is honeycombed with such homes and the rabbit population runs into uncountable millions. Some years ago the Government made a systematic attempt to gas the rabbits out of existence, but the war put an end to the scheme just as the last few thousands were being exterminated.

With the consequent rapid increase in rabbit population has come a certain housing



R. M. Lockley

A FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN AT NIGHT OF A SHEARWATER ON SKOKHOLM.

shortage. For the burrows have to house not only the rabbits and shearwaters, but the puffins as well. Often a shearwater, tired after its long homeward flight from Africa in the spring, finds that its selected burrow houses a rabbit. When that occurs the rabbit leaves—in a hurry. The shearwater is no firm squatter, however, and will himself beat a hasty retreat if a puffin comes along and claims the home. In a battle of bills there would be only one result, the tiny puffin being far more heavily, and sharply, armed.

However, the miracle of housing the thousands of birds and rabbits is somehow achieved before the nesting season and the shearwaters settle down to what they fondly imagine will be a peaceful family life. To ensure their security, they do not venture over the island by day. Practically defenceless against the murderous greater and lesser black-backed gulls—not to mention an occasional dreaded peregrine—they keep out at sea, or underground, by day. Generally, they take it in turns for the day and night shifts, the father sharing the sitting duties with his spouse and letting her off for her turn in the fish queue a few miles out at sea.

The fishing birds return at dusk, wheeling to and fro off the coast in huge black clouds, waiting for the cover of darkness in which to make for home. Their mates take off on their spell of fishing at least an hour before dawn. It is between these times that they can be caught and ringed . . . but even then only if it is a dark or misty night. For, in the full moon, a shearwater would be snapped up by a gull as easily as in daylight. Even so, Skokholm was a graveyard of shearwater corpses—every bone pecked clean and the necks turned inside out.

Hence our choice of a dirty night. On such occasions the birds come out of their burrows and have a good gossip: little do they know of the activities of the Field Study Centre!

They are caught quite easily. Unless they are very near the cliff edge, and on a fairly steep outward slope, they cannot become airborne quickly. Nature endowed the shearwater with legs placed very far back under its body, and this factor, combined with its webbed feet, impedes its take-off. Momentum and a downhill slope are needed, and as the birds flutter and stumble over the lumpy, peaty ground, they are fairly easy prey to an ardent student with a torch.

At this juncture the reader may ask: "Why catch and ring them?" The answer lies in the impressive records built up by such work. Three per cent. of all shearwaters ringed have been traced to their winter homes. Rings have been recovered in many parts of Africa,

on islands in the Mediterranean and even far down in the South Atlantic Ocean. By means of the numbers and dates stamped on the rings the year-to-year migratory habits of the birds can be noted accurately. More thrilling still to ornithologists is the recovery of a ring put on a bird in an earlier year on the same island.

It is certainly astonishing that they should travel so many thousands of miles away and then return, not only to the identical island but to the identical burrow which they vacated six months earlier.

The holding and ringing of the birds needs a certain technique. The palm of the hand is placed over its back, with the index and middle fingers either side of its neck. The bird is then tucked into one's chest so that it does not kick, and the disengaged hand slips the ring on its leg.

In practice one is generally glad to have a second person to do the ringing. Gloves are worn for protection against the formidable-looking beak. It is long and curved at the tip, but the bird can peck one only rather ineffectually; its bill cannot go through one's finger as can that of a puffin.

So the hunt goes on for an hour or two—probably until either the party has run out of rings or there is a general appetite for the cocoa prepared by the stay-at-homes in the tiny farm-house where the students live. It has been a fascinating sport—and by no means so pointless as some—and one goes to sleep with the esoteric grunts and coo-ings . . . the soprano expectorations . . . of the shearwaters ringing in one's ears. *Khugh Khugh Khoo . . . Khugh Khugh Khugh Khoo*.

CORRESPONDENCE

A TAME BUZZARD

SIR.—Possibly those of your readers who read the interesting account of the tame owl in your issue of October 18, may like to hear of a buzzard which was equally tame. It was found as an unfledged nestling, fallen from its nest, this spring. The boy who found it took it to his father, Mr. A. Rowberry, of Trebrough village, who successfully reared it. When I first saw it, last August, it was a magnificent bird, and had complete liberty. Mr. Rowberry had only to stand outside his cottage and make a mewing call, similar to that of a buzzard, for the bird to come swooping toward him from the top of a near-by tree, or even from several hundred feet above. Sam, as he was called, would perch on his friend's back, chase the dog, and behave with a complete absence of fear. He mewed constantly, demanding food. We took photographs, but unfortunately a fault in the camera spoilt them. Paying a second visit to take more photographs, a week or so later, we heard the sad news that Sam had disappeared suddenly, almost certainly the victim of a gun.—RACHEL B. RECKITT, Golsoncott, Roadwater, West Somerset.

caution and commonsense. Sometimes, too, an introduction has proved unfortunate, not because it was fundamentally mistaken, but because of the lack of sense displayed in the way in which the experiment was conducted. New Zealand is the outstanding example of unintelligent acclimatisation ventures. It was obviously asking for trouble to turn out deer and other ruminants in areas where they had no natural enemies and where game wardens could not be employed, or were not employed, to keep the stock within reasonable bounds by killing off surplus females.

With regard to the Kea parrot, I have been told on good authority that the habit of attacking sheep is exceptional and occurs only in certain districts, or is done only by certain individuals.—BEDFORD, *Crowholt, Woburn, Bletchley, Buckinghamshire*.

BUILT BY BUTLER AND DAIRY-MAID

SIR.—In COUNTRY LIFE of June 7 there is a letter *Milking in Stone*, to which you have added a note which is not quite correct. The carving inserted in a panel on Soberton church tower is a butler's head with a key

they may gather. I recently saw the lily pond in the War Memorial Garden (1914-1918) in Gloucester. The garden was ruined by the rubbish in the pond.

I would suggest a low wall, 18-24 inches high, and built of material to harmonise with the surrounding buildings. I seem to remember two parks protected in this way—one in Paris and the other in Tokio. They were a delight to the eye of the passer-by.

I quite realise that the labour, materials, and permits to build would take a considerable time to obtain, but I think it would be worth it in the end.—F. B., *M.E.L.F.*

AT ALBURY

SIR.—Albury Park, the home of the Duchess of Northumberland, lies in a lovely part of Surrey, but the house is remarkable in itself for the great variety of designs in its chimneys, which are decorated with zigzags, squares, spirals and many other patterns. From the angle from which my photograph was taken, one seems to be looking at a veritable forest of chimneys.—A. ELCOME, *Yenworthy, Bullbeggars Lane, Horsell, Woking, Surrey*.



FOREST OF CHIMNEYS AT ALBURY PARK, SURREY

See letter: At Albury

INTRODUCING ALIEN SPECIES

From the Duke of Bedford.

SIR.—Major Jarvis, in his article in your issue of October 18, raises the question of the wisdom, or otherwise, of introducing alien species of birds and mammals into regions of which they are not naturally natives. So much attention has been attracted by the more unwise experiments in this direction that people are apt to overlook the not inconsiderable number which have not proved unwise, and have been either harmless or beneficial.

No weighty or reasonable objection could, I think, be raised against the introduction into this country of the common pheasant and its allied subspecies; the Golden and Amhurst pheasants; the French partridge; the Canadian goose; and the Mandarin duck. Similarly the introduction into America of the pheasant and the Grey partridge seems to have been a success, and no evil effects that I have heard of have resulted from the introduction of the Black swan and hedge-sparrow into New Zealand, and the goldfinch into the Antipodes. There are also, I believe, some tropical birds which have been introduced into new regions without harm.

The plain fact seems to be that the introduction of new species calls for the exercise of a little ordinary

beside it, on the left, and a dairy-maid's head with her bucket on the right, with a skull in the centre. The tower was supposed to have been built by the butler (steward?) and dairy-maid at the old manor house which used to stand nearby. The tower was entirely restored about 1880 by butlers and their fellow servants, to whom a special appeal was sent out.—MARY R. MORLEY (Miss), *Barnfield Cottage, Stedham, Midhurst, Sussex*.

WALLS FOR LONDON SQUARES

SIR.—I have been interested in your correspondence on London squares and public gardens.

1. Railings. These are ugly, give the impression that they are put there to keep the people out, require constant repainting if they are to look at all presentable.

2. Wooden palings, though not so bad as railings, are easily damaged and very useful for small boys who require sticks for any purpose.

3. Hedges require constant attention if they are not to become draggled. There will always be a tendency for people to barge through them to make a short cut.

4. Moats will rapidly become a receptacle for cigarette cartons, fruit skins, toffee paper, broken bottles, and the like, which are so characteristic of the British people wherever

THE PIGS AND THE TURKEY

SIR.—An incident occurred in an Aberdeenshire farm, which, taken along with "The Christmas Cockerel's Fate" described in COUNTRY LIFE of October 11, seems to confirm that pigs are even more voracious than is commonly supposed. A number of turkeys were kept in a field adjacent to one in which three large pigs also enjoyed an open air life. One turkey, more adventurous than the others, apparently flew over the high fence dividing the two fields, and paid for its temerity with its life, for it was seized by the pigs and devoured. The actual deed was not witnessed, but the condition of the pigs, and the evidence of the scattered feathers which were almost all that remained of the unfortunate turkey left no doubt as to what had happened.—J. C., *Dumbartonshire*.

HOOPOES IN SCOTLAND

SIR.—In COUNTRY LIFE of October 11 I was interested to read that Major G. S. Mackay, Weybridge, Surrey, has had a hoopoe in his garden. I saw a pair on my lawn on the afternoon of July 30, 1944, and was so astonished that I got my book called *British Birds* by F. D. Kirkman and F. C. R. Jourdain (revised 1938 edition) which has on the outer page cover under "British Birds" in large lettering

a picture in colour of a pair of hoopoes. I have always considered this picture most unsuitable and felt the illustration should have been of a pair of genuine British birds. Although I could see the hoopoes quite distinctly, I got my field glasses and examined their wonderful colouring, the male being slightly larger and brighter in colour than the female. They were picking something on the grass very busily. I regretted I could not follow their movements and by evening they had disappeared. I went from home next day for a fortnight and on my return did not see them again. Surely it is unusual to see hoopoes so far north, in West Perthshire.—M. MAITLAND GARDNER (Mrs.), *Culdee Castle, Muthill, Perthshire*.

ROBIN AND THE PEARLS

SIR.—On the morning of October 2 we found a small string of pearls had been taken off a tray on the dressing-table and dropped by the window seat. There was a mess of bird's droppings on the table. Naturally we suspected a jackdaw or magpie. But on going upstairs an hour later (having foolishly forgotten to shut the window) I discovered the culprit to be a robin, which immediately flew out of the window. This time he had moved the pearls from the tray to the edge of the table, but the whole place was in a great mess, for, evidently enraged at his reflection in the mirror, he had been clawing at it and his marks were extremely evident. This time I shut the window.

After lunch I went upstairs to sit in peace and wrestle with accounts, only to be interrupted by angry singing and fluttering from the robin, which could, I imagine, see himself reflected in the small leaded window panes. I opened the window to see if he wanted to come in again, but no, he spent the whole time fighting his reflection. Now and again, when I scared him, he would go away, but at intervals he went on fighting until 8 p.m. when the lights were put on.

The next morning he was back again on the job at 6 a.m., and awakened me with his buffettings. Now I have fixed up some tissue paper outside in the hope of getting a little quiet!

I have never known a robin do this, although I once saw a sparrow, day after day, for months, fluttering and pecking at his reflection in a cottage window. But the pearls are a new departure.—ELIZABETH CROSS, *The Thatched Cottage, Idbury, Kinchham, Oxfordshire*.

AN ENIGMATIC ROOF BOSS

SIR.—The "enigmatic" boss on the ceiling in the porch of Thornton Church, illustrated in your number of October 11, is really no enigma. Clearly it represents the Trinity. The Holy Ghost, always represented by a winged creature, here is placed upside-down for symmetry in design. You can see the correctness of this interpretation in Dürer's splendid woodcut of the Trinity, signed and dated 1511.—H. LYDIARD W. SON, 52, Seymour Street, London, W. 5.

[The Rev. H. P. Hart of Burrough Green, Newmarket, writing to us giving the same interpretation and pointing out that the boss is described in John Stubbs's *Some Old Churches* as "representing the Holy Trinity."—ED.]

HOW DO YOU SLING?

SIR.—I am obliged to your various correspondents who have replied to my letter, *How Do You Sling?* But I had hoped to hear something about modern expert slingers.

Inevitably, I suppose, these would be fairly remote native races such as those in New Guinea of whom Monckton briefly wrote: "Their work

with the sling was, apparently, highly efficient." It might have been very dangerous to his police had he not foreseen it.

A friend kindly sent me a sling stone from a hoard found at Maiden Castle, Dorset; smooth, about two inches long, formidable possibly at short range, weight about two oz., and obtained, he thought, from Chesil Beach.—CHARLES R. HILLS, 5, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2.

THE SLING IN MAJORCA

SIR.—In reference to letters about the sling, may I say that when I was in Majorca in 1920 my friend Col. Rafael Ysasi told me that the sling still lingered in that island, as part of the equipment of the small boys who tended herds of cattle. The use of the sling was to control the "brave bulls"—those thought to become only second-rate.

The method of use was to throw stones at their tender noses. One of these slings, made of horsehair, was found at Oxford Pitt Rivers Museum.—W. J. Trickey, Carnarvonshire.

SLING IN SPAIN

SIR.—In the south of Spain some fifty years ago when I was there every boy and youth possessed one. It was a popular Sunday afternoon pastime for "Guerrillas" 30 to 100 strong to sally forth from San Roque and engage similar bands from La Linea. Casualties between combatants, that it was made an offence to carry a sling.

Slings were also used by smugglers for more serious warfare against the Carabineros and for throwing packages of sugar and tobacco over the frontier fence between La Linea and Gibraltar.

The slings were generally as described by Mr. Lincoln and were made of plaited Esparto grass. The pocket was formed by a cut splice about 3 ins. long which was sometimes covered with a piece of leather, but this was considered rather refinement. The free end was finished with a lash of whipcord which cracked like a whip when the stone was discharged. The length of the sling depended on the reach of the user. In use the right hand was held close to the point of the right shoulder and the stone held in the pocket with the thumb of the left hand thus keeping the sling taut until

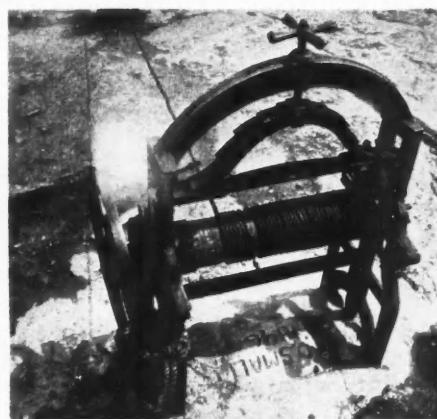


AN IMPROVISED DERRICK AT LAMORNA COVE, CORNWALL, SERVES AS A WINCH

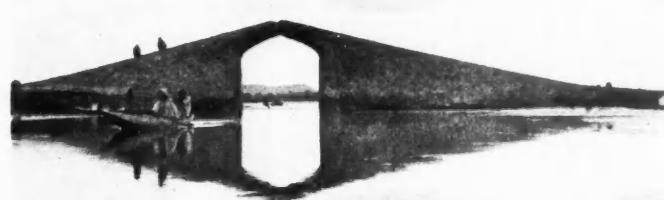
See letter: *Cornish Ingenuity*

the swing commenced. Normally a swing of only three-quarters of a circle was made, but if the opponent ducked at the critical moment the sling might be kept circling the head until he appeared again to ensure the

his farming activities, he met a serious obstacle in the absence of a beach for launching and landing. Undaunted, he contrived, on the ruins of a very old jetty, this winch from an ancient mangle and a gib-derrick from a piece



(Right) THE MANGLE WHICH



MOGUL BRIDGE IN KASHMIR

See letter: *The Waterways of Srinagar*

stone remaining in the pocket. The swing was finished with a throwing motion exactly as described by Mr. Lincoln.—A. J. MITCHELL (Captain, R.N. [Retd.]), Hill Head, Hampshire.

CORNISH INGENUITY

SIR.—When a farm-worker at Lamorna Cove, Cornwall, added sea fishing to

of telegraph pole and a tree branch. Launching into deep water has now become as efficient as any ship's life-boat drill! His enterprise benefits the nation's larder in two ways and his ingenuity is a credit to the county of Humphry Davy and Trevethick.—J. A. JOHNSON, Carn Galva, Lower Porthmeor, near Pendeen, Cornwall.

THE WATERWAYS OF SRINAGAR

SIR.—I enclose a photograph of one of the several hump-backed bridges which span the waterways of Srinagar—often called the Venice of the East. These bridges are from Mogul times, and the slight outward curves, at the bases of the arch, are a very clear hint of Eastern origin.

The craft used here are almost exclusively flat-bottomed, owing to the tall water weeds, which grow just under the surface of the lakes and canals. A native houseboat may be discerned on the left hand side, harboured against the bridge. Many of the folk cook and live and earn their livelihood in these boats. More sumptuous houseboats are provided for the holiday-making European from India.

The picture also shows one of the universally used runabouts or punts. These are dexterously and swiftly propelled by clover-shaped paddles.—R. J. HENDERSON, *The Nook, Perivale Lane, Perivale, Middlesex*.

TWO BRISTOL LANDMARKS

SIR.—A public enquiry, lasting three weeks, recently sat at Bristol to decide on the 50-year plan for rebuilding the city. The area in the heart of the city, in the vicinity of the church of St. Mary le Port, shown in one of my photographs, will probably be the site of a Civic Centre overlooking the Avon, and there is a proposal for a wide highway connecting Horsemill and Bristol Bridge. The tower of St. Mary le Port escaped when adjoining property in Wine Street was destroyed in the blitz. Never before has the tower been seen so well, so shut in was it before 1940. In the distance the spire of St. Mary Redcliffe is visible.

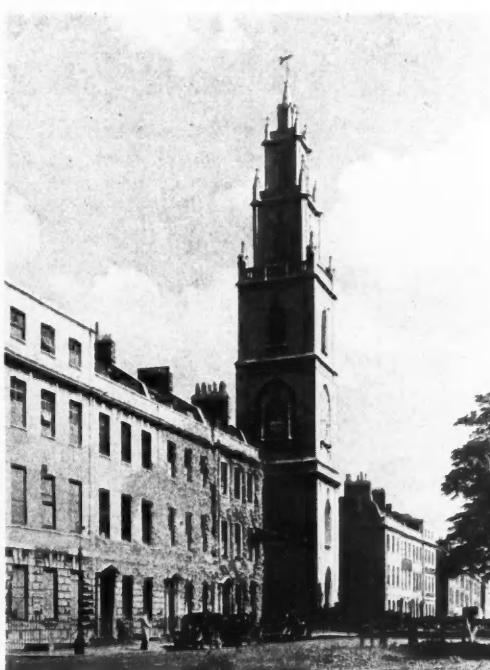
The second photograph is of the steeple of St. Paul's Church, Portland Square, and some of the well-designed Georgian fronts adjoining it. The area near this square will probably be scheduled for industrial purposes, but efforts will be made to preserve the square with its admirable Georgian architecture.—R. W., Bristol.

[The Gothic steeple of St. Paul's, Bristol, an unusual and effective design, is Gothic at two removes. With its receding upper stages it reproduces in Gothic dress the characteristic Classic steeple evolved by Wren and his successors, which in its turn was an attempt to translate into Classic terms the tower and spire combination of mediæval churches.—ED.]

OUTDOOR TOMATO GROWING

SIR.—As a quite inexperienced amateur, I was greatly interested in the letter of Mr. Buzzard on outdoor tomato growing.

I also made an experiment this year of a slightly different kind. I sowed the seeds in the positions where they were to grow, out of doors;



MEDIÆVAL AND GOTHIC REVIVAL
THE TOWER OF ST. MARY LE PORT, BRISTOL, AS REVEALED SINCE THE BLITZ.
(Right) THE STEEPLE OF ST. PAUL'S, PORTLAND SQUARE

See letter: *Two Bristol Landmarks*



the stakes were inserted in the prepared ground and four or five seeds sown before each stake. They were then covered with small cloches, sealed both ends. When the plants were about $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches high, I removed all but the best one, which was tied in the usual way and covered with a high barn cloche. Surplus plants can be planted and covered in the same way.

I have 32 plants from which, up to now, we have picked 73 lb., and as the plants were all untied from the stakes and placed under cloches again about September 20 there are many more pounds to be gathered, and all

productive kernels and not just empty shells, occurs only about once every eleven years. It follows that natural regeneration in useful quantities occurs approximately only every eleventh year in any given wood. After recent "mast years" natural regeneration has been alarmingly poor, owing, among other things, to the depredations of rabbits and squirrels.

The Ministry of Agriculture now encourages further inroads, and that at a time when another branch of the same Government is confronted with the desperate task of replacing the home-grown timber stocks swallowed up by the war.—A. I. STEWART LIBERTY, Rushmore, The Lee, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

[Cincinnatus writes: "In a good 'mast year' there is surely plenty for all and I cannot imagine that the collection of a minute proportion to sustain pigs and poultry in these lean times would interfere with natural regeneration of the beech woods." —ED.]

IN WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

SIR.—Visitors to Winchester must have been struck by the beautiful Annunciation group in the Cathedral. It was designed and executed in oak



THE ANNUNCIATION GROUP
BY ALAN DURST

See letter: *In Winchester Cathedral*

are in perfect condition and very fine fruits. The date of sowing the seeds was March 15. I watered when necessary and of course sprayed with Bordeaux regularly, also sprayed the flowers lightly every two or three days with the hose. As this is the finest crop I have had, I shall certainly proceed in the same way each year.

I should be grateful to know if any other amateur has tried this in such a bad season.—MARJORIE TATHAM, *The Cottage, East End, near Lyndington, Hampshire*.

HARES THAT ENJOY SEA BATHING

SIR.—Anyone living on the coast in a sea marsh area, where the tide rises smoothly and without waves even on a windy day, will have seen hares swimming in the sea for sheer pleasure.

In Morecambe Bay between the Rivers Wyre and Lune, where I lived for two years, the tide comes in over the mud flats, and at high tide surrounds and then covers large areas of sheep-grazing marsh, consisting chiefly of fescue grass and sea pinks.

The hares allow themselves to become surrounded by the rising tide and swim about between the ever-diminishing islands, until, when the tide covers everything, they tire of their sporting and frolicking and swim back to the fields on the edge of the tide.—L. A. COWCILL, *Mount End, Healey, Rochdale, Lancashire*.

BEECHMAST FOR PIGS

SIR.—It is sad to read in COUNTRY LIFE that Cincinnatus, in his Farming Notes, endorses the advice of the Ministry of Agriculture to feed beechmast crops to pigs and poultry.

It is well known that many of the English beechwoods, particularly in Buckinghamshire, are managed, rightly or wrongly, on the system of natural selection, which relies on natural regeneration. Normally in England a "mast year," when a majority of the beech nuts contain full



DETAIL OF ONE OF THE CARVED RELIEFS

See letter: *In Winchester Cathedral*

by Mr. Alan Durst, and was erected by public subscription early last year. A legacy of £250 from the late Canon B. K. Cunningham was used for this purpose, and the Group is associated with his memory. In addition to the large figures of Mary and the Angel there are a series of reliefs, inspired by Romanesque sculpture, one of which, the miracle of the water made wine, is shown in the second photograph.—J. D. R., *Darlington, Durham*.

ON MOUNT KENYA

SIR.—Your readers may like to see this picture of giant groundsel growing



CAMPING AMONG THE GIANT GROUNDSSEL OF MOUNT KENYA

See letter: *On Mount Kenya*

13,000 feet up on the moors of Mount Kenya. It does not very much resemble, to the lay eye, the groundsel which canary-lovers pick for their birds at home, but then neither does the giant lobelia out here much remind us of the blue plant bedded out in all red, white and blue schemes in our parks in England. —K. R., *Kenya*.

THE STEEPEST RAILWAY

SIR.—I enclose a photograph of a view down the track of the hydraulic cliff railway that runs between Lynton and Lynmouth, which I think illustrates the statement of your contributor, Mr. R. T. Lang (September 27), that this is "the steepest railway in the world."

It was built by the late Sir George Newnes Bt., who did much for the benefit of Lynton and Lynmouth.—G. T. LARGE, *Brownswood, Southgate, N.14*.

RADWAY GRANGE AND SULGRAVE MANOR

SIR.—In his article on Radway Grange, Warwickshire, in COUNTRY LIFE of September 6, Mr. Arthur Oswald refers to the link between Radway and Sulgrave through the marriage, in 1565, of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Walter Light of Radway, and Robert, eldest son of Lawrence Washington, the builder of Sulgrave Manor—forbears of George Washington.

Mr. Oswald also records the existence in a window in the Great Chamber at Sulgrave Manor of a quarry of Elizabethan glass painted with the coat of arms of Washington and Light. The arms read as follows: Quarterly, 1 and 4, Argent, two bars and three mullets in chief gules, for Washington; 2 and 3, Azure, a cross flory between four cinquefoils or: the whole impaling, Gules, a chevron between three swans rising argent, for Light.

The quarry of glass, which was purchased for Sulgrave Manor in 1933, is said to have been originally in old Radway church before it was rebuilt 81 years ago.

The quartered coat, with foliated cross and cinquefoils, has not, so far, been identified with certainty. It occurs in a window at Hengrave Hall, Suffolk, dated 1598. It was not used in any of the heraldic glass known to have been placed at Sulgrave in the time of Lawrence Washington, builder of Sulgrave Manor, or of his eldest son



FROM LYNTON TO LYNMOUTH

See letter: *The Steepest Railway*

Robert, who died at Sulgrave in 1620, but was used by his younger son Lawrence, Registrar of the High Court of Chancery, and M.P. for Maidstone, who died in 1619 and was buried at Maidstone.

The arms were quartered with those of Washington and recorded in Burke's *General Armoury* as those of a family named Marcury or Mercury. No marriage of a member of this family with the Washingtons is known.

GLASS CIRCA

QUARRY
1580,



WITH IMPALED WASHINGTON AND LIGHT

See letter: *Radway Grange and Sulgrave Manor*

Any suggestion by readers of COUNTRY LIFE that may lead to the solution of this heraldic puzzle would be welcomed.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, 25, Campden Grove, Campden Hill, Kensington, W.8.

[It is surprising that an heraldic problem connected with so famous a family as the Washingtons should still be unsolved. It is to be hoped that some learned reader may be able to help the historian of Sulgrave to elucidate it.—ED.]

CORNCRAKES IN HERTFORDSHIRE

SIR.—I was much interested in your letter from E. M., Edinburgh, in the September 6 edition of your paper concerning corncrakes on the west coast of Sutherland.

In this part of England, as I believe, in most of the country, for many years now the corncrake has been heard very rarely indeed.

Three years ago, while shooting partridges, one of the guns unfortunately shot a corncrake. A year later I had the misfortune to see another shot. The gun mistook it for a wounded French partridge; the dangling legs misled him.

This year, again while I was shooting partridges, my dog flushed



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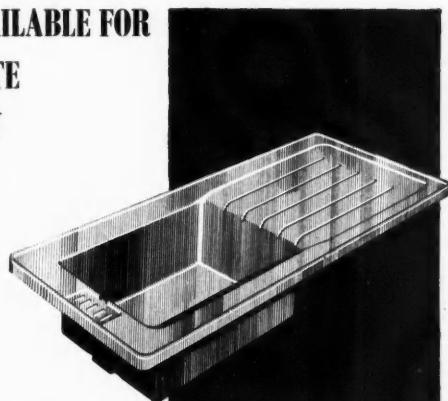
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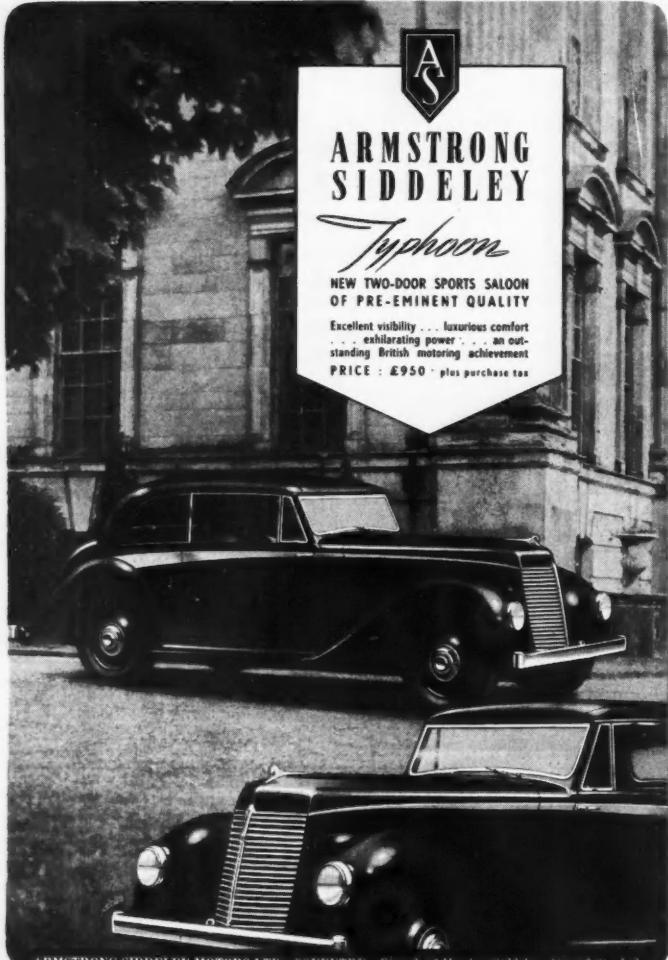


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NOV. 9

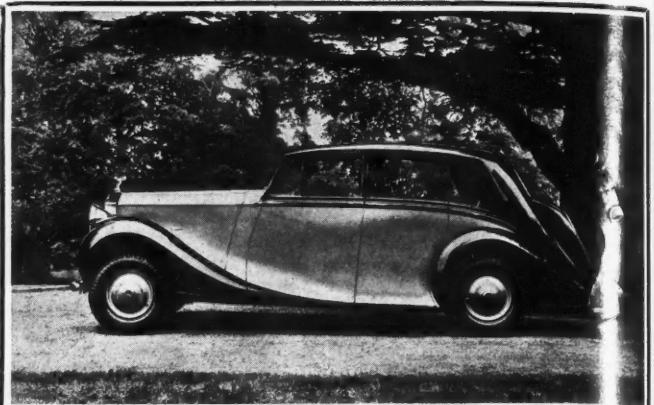
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one in a clover field just in front of me. So we must assume there are still some about.

Now it is interesting to note that in spite of my widespread enquiries, no one has heard the corn-crake for years! If this is the case, can anyone explain why they have become silent, or are these Mr. Edinburgh's birds on their way south?—W. DONALD BEDFORD, *Broxbourne, Hertfordshire*.

[September is the time when a corn-crake would be moving south, so it is both possible and probable that the birds met with when partridge shooting were travellers.—ED.]

A BRIDGE IN SURBITON

SIR.—Would any of your readers kindly tell me whether the Hogsmill Bridge (over the brook of the same name) near Tolworth, Surrey, still exists as in Richard Jefferies's time?

Jefferies lived at 2, Woodside Villas, Tolworth, Surbiton, from 1877 to 1881. He tells in *Nature Near London* how he used to go for over three years, sometimes daily, to look at a trout which lurked under the bridge.

THE BIRDS OF SELBORNE

SIR.—During our summer holiday this year, in which we travelled over 800 miles of Swedish roads, and camped with a car and tent, we particularly noticed the scarcity of birds there, even in agricultural districts. The quiet stillness of the pinewoods seemed uncanny, and we missed the cheeping and chirruping which always took place in Denmark and England around our tent in the early morning, while our little feathered friends

squabbled over the crumbs and pieces of rind we had dropped for them.

Last Sunday we went on a pilgrimage to Selborne, Hampshire, and I am interested to observe in Gilbert White's book that "Selborne parish alone can and has exhibited at times more than half the birds that are ever seen in all Sweden; the former has produced more than 120 species, the latter only 221. Let me add also that it has shown near half the species that were ever known in Great Britain."

The footnote adds, "Sweden 221, Great Britain 252 species."

I am glad to be living in Hampshire!—I. L. SHELTON (Mrs.), 8, Junction Road, Andover, Hampshire.

THE ARCHITECT OF THENFORD HOUSE

SIR.—I was interested in Mr. Oswald's articles about Thenford House. To my mind, however, the design is too inherently self-contradictory to be ascribed to Keene. If Keene—as in his Gothic—chose to be archaic, his work was harmonious. But Thenford is not. The balustraded panels

below the first-floor windows are a sop to the fashions of the 1760s with which the designer was clearly not in sympathy: the hipped roof and cupola betray his inclination too clearly. Again, the cupola is most unhappily set, and the shield of arms, almost trivial in the expanse of pediment, hardly more happy. These details, and the contradiction mentioned, seem to me to be what one would expect, not of Keene, nor even of Horne, but rather of a local builder unusually conservative, unusually timid, and perhaps ageing. Who he was I cannot guess. I do not think he was from Oxford: my own first guess would be Northampton. But the Northampton school has yet to be studied in any detail.

The design of Thenford House in the main is half a century behind the times: a few details are rather grudgingly brought up to date. I find it difficult to imagine Keene, or even Horne, working thus: or being so clumsy in fitting the cupola or the shield of arms into a setting. Quite a pretty little problem is offered.—EDMUND ESDALE, *Bloxham, Oxfordshire*.

BUILDING A HOUSE TO-DAY—II

THE SECOND PHASE

By MICHAEL HAWORTH-BOOTH

SINCE I wrote *Building a House To-day* (COUNTRY LIFE, April 19, 1946), there has been a change in the necessary formalities of procedure. A directive was issued by the Minister, Mr. Bevan, stating that local authorities should so restrict the licences granted for private building that four council houses should be built for every one erected by private enterprise.

This meant that local authorities who had granted fairly numerous licences had to stop issuing any more until the output of their housing schemes had caught up sufficiently to provide the required ratio. In a surprising number of instances, however, so few private licences had been applied for that no immediate curtailment was needed. For instance, a friend of mine who has a site, which I had already laid out and planted with a flowering shrub garden, in a very choice district not far from London was told that he was the first person to apply for a licence to build. As the local housing scheme was well under way the authorities were able to issue a licence at once. Thus, it is always well worth trying.

A change has also been made in the procedure as regards acquiring the necessary materials. Each outstanding or newly-granted licence is given a W.B.A. symbol. This, briefly, is a sort of general priority permit to buy the bricks, plaster, fittings, etc. which were not formerly restricted. Merchants insist on having this symbol because otherwise they are unlikely to be able to replace their stocks, and as the demand waxes with housing schemes getting under way, supplies have not yet caught up sufficiently to make good the sudden drain on stocks. L.C.C. cast-iron soil pipes, socketed stoneware soil pipe, plasterboard, plaster, roof tiles, windows, etc. are cases in point. On the other hand, such is the extraordinary effect of the "freeze up" of normal supply-and-demand fluidity, caused by the necessary control, that I should not be surprised to hear that some distant northern district was grossly overstocked with just these items, but was short of stoves or some other product in good supply in the south.

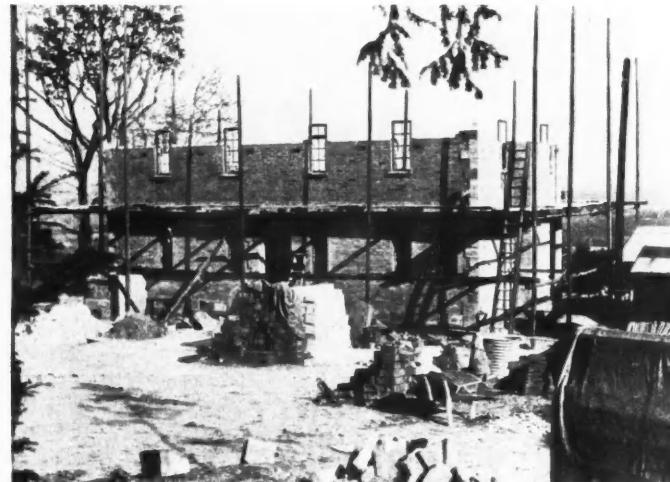
The possession of the W.B.A. symbol is no guarantee that the goods can be obtained and any failure to secure them may cause heavy expense in paying craftsmen to wait about with nothing to do. Thus contractors' overheads and contingency allowances have to be increased considerably. Furthermore, prices of materials, fittings and appliances have, in many cases, gone up. These factors have increased the difficulty of building in an economic manner to a great degree. For the £1,300 maximum one may consider oneself fortunate if one obtains a house which would have cost £750 before the war.

Many schemes have been thought out to make the austere cottage, that is all one can build to-day, the nucleus of a larger dwelling when better times return. One of the more practical is so to design the house that the immediate structure forms a bungalow whose roof can be removed so that it becomes the ground floor of a two-storeyed house later. Such a plan needs considerable thought and care, and the services of an experienced architect are, more than ever, essential.

Our own progress has been slow, indeed; there were weeks when only one indomitable craftsman was at work. There were times when I feared that the half-finished building would remain for ever one of those "follies" which are seen emerging from the undergrowth in various parts of England. However, the help of kind friends and neighbours just made all the difference and, slowly, but surely, the work regained momentum. Now one may say that completion is in sight, though somewhat distantly.

Though it is the third house I have built I must admit, as usual, there are several things I could have done better—if I had known then what I know now. The most generally interesting of these is that I think that one should never again build a brick flue and, most particularly, never an outside brick flue. In the first place, the flue requires nearly half as many bricks as the whole of the rest of the house; secondly, most of these bricks have to be hacked to bits at vast expenditure of time and labour to form the complicated windings and shapes of the bends and the "gather over" above the fires; and, thirdly, it is almost impossible to utilise the invaluable possibilities of extra heating by air ducts if you have the usual cavity brick walls.

The new system that I would like to have used simplifies the whole thing, halves the cost (according to my reckoning) and makes good use of every therm your coal produces. Briefly the fireplace (or two fireplaces back to back) is made of pre-cast blocks which form the outer surface for subsequent plasterings and act as



THE AUTHOR'S NEW HOUSE AT FIRST-FLOOR HEIGHT

shuttering for weak concrete to fill up the unwanted spaces. The complicated "gather over" is instantly provided by a perfectly shaped block costing less than 30s. and into the top of this fit fireclay flue pipes with smooth surfaces giving a 9 in. by 9 in. easily-cleaned flue. Around these are placed the exterior blocks as before and there is ample room for the hot-air pipes which will conduct all the otherwise wasted heat from the back of the fire to your bedroom above. This hot air from the duct is not supposed to be sufficient to warm a bedroom thoroughly on a bitter night, but it is amply sufficient to take off the damp chill which one so often encounters when one has left a warm fire below. When roof level is reached it is easy to build a comely straightforward brick chimney on the strong foundation provided.

Then I have failed, again, to contrive that invaluable little drawer that passes through the wall between kitchen or pantry and dining-room in such a manner that the cutlery, spoons and forks are conveniently put into it after washing from the kitchen side and as easily extracted from it from the dining-room side. Without this convenience one has either to carry all these implements round to the dining-room and keep them there or interrupt the meal to go and fetch that extra spoon from the pantry. But, on the whole, the results of these months of work are promising and, although I doubt if I would have the courage to start a new house now, I am glad that I did begin soon after hostilities ceased.

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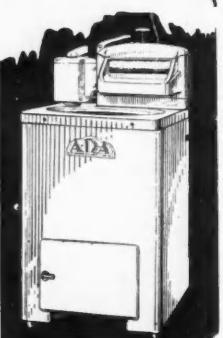
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NEW BOOKS

A VALUATION OF ANDREW LANG

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

M. ROGER LANCELYN GREEN, who has written the biography *Andrew Lang* (Edmund Ward, Leicester, 15s.), tells us that Watts Dunton once exclaimed: "I never yet knew a man of genius who did not loathe Lang."

It is not difficult to see why Swinburne's irascible keeper was stung to this remark. Lang, as a literary critic, had the public ear. Into that ear he poured, no doubt, much wisdom, much advice that was excellent. He had a scholar's knowledge of things past and could commend the things he liked in a prose which "Q" for one considered incomparable in its time. But he had a blind spot for what one may call the growing-point in letters. He could not abide Thomas Hardy or George Moore; he disliked much of Henry James; and, while he was expressing his dislike of these, it was

The point which Mr. Green appears to miss is that "human pleasure" is not a scientific term covering a specific excitement or indulgence of the mind. There is human pleasure to some people in shooting a bird; to others the thought of doing so fills the mind with repugnance. There is human pleasure to be had out of the penny trash that, perhaps mistakenly, it is assumed only parlourmaids read; and there is human pleasure to be got out of reading Henry James and George Moore.

I am not making a plea for these two writers in particular; my admiration for each of them is qualified; but the point is that James was right; and that "human pleasure" below a certain level is the pleasure of "Philistines whose tastes and opinions are beneath any attempt at serious understanding."

And all this leads me to what

ANDREW LANG. By Roger Lancelyn Green
(Edmund Ward, Leicester, 15s.)

UNPOPULAR OPINIONS. By Dorothy L. Sayers
(Gollancz, 8s. 6d.)

impossible not to notice his praise of authors who, to say the least of it, were not in the same street. Conan Doyle, A. E. W. Mason, Anthony Hope and, above all, Rider Haggard, seemed to him more worth reading than, say, Turgenev, Tolstoy and Dostoevsky. He was at least honest about it. He acknowledged the genius of these three, and confessed that his feeling for them was "not exactly a literary judgment" but "a pardonable antipathy."

"PHILISTINE TWADDLE"

It is not difficult to understand why many writers detested him. Henry James complained that he "uses his beautiful thin facility to write everything down to the lowest level of Philistine twaddle." Mr. Lancelyn Green, whose attitude to Lang is almost of adoring devotion, excuses his hero on the ground that Lang wanted people to read for "human pleasure," and commended books that would give them that pleasure. Since this biography is a critical examination of Lang's status in English letters, addressed from no less august a place than Lang's old college, Merton, this point of view deserves examination.

"Henry James," Mr. Green says, "wrote for a very small and select circle, and tended to regard the general reader, and all such as read for 'human pleasure,' as mere Philistines whose tastes and opinions were beneath any attempt at serious understanding."

I do not for a moment believe that Henry James "wrote for a very small and select circle." Certainly he was read by a small circle—though not so small as all that; but, like every other writer worth his salt, he wrote for himself. It is also no doubt true that he hoped that what he wrote would give "human pleasure."

I consider to be the flaw in Mr. Green's book. He has refused to see where his hero was in the wrong. He will not admit that even a toe-nail was of clay. He has "written up" Lang as an important writer, which, in my view, he certainly was not. All the time, he seems to have a feeling, which he will not allow to come into the open, that Lang, after all, was not the man to deserve this erudite book with its notes, appendices, bibliography, "addenda to bibliography," and all the rest of it that one associates with a thesis for an American Ph.D. degree. He writes: "As much, perhaps, as any other reason, it is the lack of any one acknowledged masterpiece that has prevented Andrew Lang from taking his due place in literature." And on this queer sentence the only comment can be: Lacking this masterpiece, how can a place be "due"? Mr. Green quotes, without seeking to deny or even question its truth, Mrs. Lynn Linton's remark: "Andrew Lang would be the greatest living writer, if only he had something to write about."

NOT A CREATOR

Mr. Green claims that Lang left "half a dozen or a dozen works that . . . are treasures." This is too ambiguous altogether. How many? Six or twelve?

Anyone who reads the book will be struck by this: that whenever Lang tried to produce something out of himself, if it were only a "thriller," it failed. In editing, explaining, commending, that is to say in whatever way reproducing, the work of others, he was successful. In a word, he was not a creator.

Miss Dorothy L. Sayers, in her most interesting book *Unpopular Opinions* (Gollancz, 8s. 6d.) has a lot to say about creative writing. She speaks of the way in which most people go through life enduring nothing but

what T. S. Eliot calls "a continual impact of external events." The creative artist does not endure events; he *experiences* them, and finally he expresses them. When he has done this and recognised the experience in the very act of expression, then it is fully his. "It is no longer something happening to him, but something happening in him." Thus he takes hold of "sin, grief, joy, sorrow, worship."

SENSITIVE NATURE

Now I suggest that this was the kind of experience that never came to Andrew Lang. Mr. Green writes: "Lang's exaggeratedly sensitive nature prevented him from appreciating the more sordid or gloomy type of contemporary novel. . . . To one of his temperament an escape into a more visionary or artificial world was inevitable."

I am not condemning Lang for what he was or for what he wrote; I am questioning the validity of Mr. Green's critical method. You can't claim for a writer "genius," which I take to mean creative ability, and at the same time show him fleeing from the conditions in which creation is possible. I suggest that Miss Sayers is right in saying that one of those conditions is to experience the reality of life—"sin, grief, joy, sorrow, worship"—not "to escape into a more visionary or artificial world." Once again one is struck by Mr. Green's baffling use of words. He writes almost as though "visionary" and "artificial" meant the same thing. Creativeness can occur within the visionary, but never, I think, within the artificial, and there is no doubt that Lang had a powerful leaning to the artificial. Writing of "romanticism," he said: "Knights amorous and errant are all unlike the festive wanderers of Fielding and Smollett." They are, indeed, and I do not think that excessive recourse to their company necessarily indicates a more "sensitive" nature than others possess. I imagine that Hardy was more "sensitive" than Lang. The point about a man of genius is that his sensitive nature, which takes hold of an event like a sensitive plate, is allied with something adamant and invincible which permits him to take the next step—that of experiencing through expression. When he has done that, he knows that nothing is common or unclean.

CHURCH AND THE ARTS

Let us leave Lang, who did a good enough job within the severe limitations of his nature, and look a bit further at Miss Sayers's book. These chapters which deal with artists and the nature of their creative work are well worth the attention of anyone interested in something more than what this author calls "spurious emotion—sob-stuff and sensation and senseless laughter, phantasy and day-dreaming, and admiration for the merely smart and slick and clever and amusing." These are all very well within their proportion; the danger is in their excess, in a whole generation . . . who seemed to be in a fair way of doping themselves into complete irresponsibility over the conduct of life till the war came."

Miss Sayers does well to insist that the attitude of the Church to the arts has been wrong in two directions: first, in denouncing the arts as irreligious or mischievous; and, second, in trying to exploit the arts as a means to teaching religion and morals.

I find it particularly refreshing nowadays to read this protest against

the attempt, whether by the Church or anyone else, to use the arts for their propaganda value. We should know by now what was the consequence of this in Germany; and we may observe how at this moment in Russia there is a dead set against artists who are not, in the current cant, "ideologically pure." An artist can be true to no "ideology" whatever. If he is untrue to himself, he is untrue to everything; which is to say he is no artist at all.

A Russian critic has just demanded hotly: "Is this the time for great artists to take a holiday and forget contemporary problems?" The answer is a hearty Yes. To an artist, every day is a holy-day. In so far as "contemporary problems" are mechanical, they should be left to mechanics; in so far as they are spiritual, they are not contemporary. It is at this point that the artist's work lies; and when he has done his work he has done it not only for himself but for the mechanics also. As Miss Sayers says: "What the poet does for himself, he can also do for us." That is, if we have the sense to let him take his holiday.

THE HAUNTED RECTORY

BORLEY Rectory, near Sudbury in Suffolk, has had a tradition of hauntings which goes back to the days of its building in 1863. When it was burnt down in 1899, one might have thought that whatever secrets it contained would have perished in the conflagration. This is not so, if the large amount of evidence brought together by Mr. Harry Price in *The End of Borley Rectory* (Harrap, 15s.) is accepted. The book contains not only the records of a great number of attested paranormal happenings which have occurred in the ruins of the house—including the persistence of the already notorious *cold spot*—but much discussion from new angles of the evidence already presented in Mr. Price's earlier volume *The Most Haunted House in England*. This evidence cannot be summarised in a few lines: its chief attraction lies in the cumulative effect of detail, and this can be experienced only by reading the monographs as a whole. Nor would it be fair to the reader to attempt to summarise the new developments of evidence or explanations given with regard to the unfortunate nun who is regarded as the chief actor in the Borley drama in days when, perhaps, some earlier monastic building occupied the site. But it may be said that even for those who are not greatly interested in the truth or otherwise of supernormal explanations there remains the thrill afforded by well-marshalled documents and testimony.

W.E.B.

BIRDS OF LINDISFARNE

MR. RICHARD PERRY, a keen and observant naturalist, spent some years on Holy Island studying the wild life, in particular the bird life of that group of the Northumberland coast we know as the Farne Islands. He is by no means the first lover of Nature to take up his abode on Lindisfarne, for did not St. Cuthbert, appointed Prior in 673, feed the eider ducks, still known on the islands as St. Cuthbert's ducks?

Mr. Perry tells us in *A Naturalist On Lindisfarne* (Lindsay Drummond, 15s.) of the early history of the Farne Islands, also of their later times, but his book is chiefly devoted to the birds that congregate here in such numbers. He tells of the changing seasons and the comings and goings they bring, stressing the importance of Holy Isle as an observation post at migration time and for the study of winter visitors. "It is possessed," he says, "of a non-breeding avifauna, unsurpassed, and as far as I know unequalled, in the British Isles." F.P.

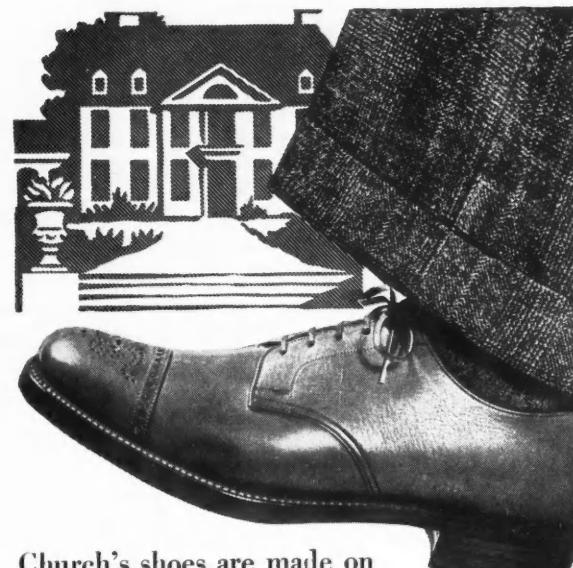
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FARMING NOTES

LABOUR PROBLEMS ON THE FARM

WITH German prisoners on the way home and continuing demands from the Minister of Agriculture for the tillage acreage to be maintained, and especially the output of potatoes and sugar-beet next year, farmers are much worried about their capacity to deal with this programme of production. There was a full house last week at Bradfield College in Berkshire for the discussion which the Bradfield District Farming Club had arranged on the Labour Position on the Farm. Two agricultural M.P.s were there to lead the discussion, Alderman Gooch from the Government side and Mr. Anthony Hurd from the Opposition side. With the Headmaster of Bradfield College in the chair every point of view had a fair hearing. There was indeed a good deal of common ground. All agreed that before 1939 British agriculture was in a poor way. It was not merely that farmers were not making the incomes they deserved, but that too little money was circulating in the industry to maintain satisfactory living conditions, particularly good houses for farm-workers and the provision of piped water supplies, sanitation and electricity. The fact that the farm-worker's minimum wage was no more than 35s. a week is in itself evidence enough of the poor state of the industry. In the past seven years there has been a great spurt in home production and the minimum wage is now fixed at £4 a week. But there seems little immediate prospect of recruiting more regular workers to the industry, and, with the reduction in the number of Italians and Germans and the dwindling of the Women's Land Army, of course farmers are worried.

Man-power Shortages

WHAT is the measure of this man-power problem in agriculture? Before the war there were roughly a million farmers and farm-workers and the total remains much the same to-day, excluding the emergency workers brought in to deal with emergency cropping. In the future will agriculture need, and be able to pay adequately for, more man-power? The views were expressed at Bradfield that, while every industry and profession is competing for man-power, agriculture cannot expect a much greater labour strength than before the war, and that the higher production now required from British agriculture can be obtained only by mechanisation and greater technical efficiency that enables each pair of hands to produce more in a working week. If this is true, it will still be necessary to improve greatly the housing and living conditions in the industry so as to attract into farming a fair share of the rising generation. Everyone at Bradfield was agreed about this, and indeed the National Union of Agricultural Workers has recently joined with the National Farmers' Union in pressing the Government to give priority to rural housing. One outcome of this pressure should be the revival in some form of Government grants to assist the enlargement and improvement of farm-workers' cottages.

Tied Cottages

INEVITABLY there was some dispute about tied cottages. One side argued that the abolition of the tied cottage would help to attract more men to the industry. The other side declared that it was utter folly at the moment to talk about abolishing the tied cottage as it was the offer of a house, often a good one, that

brought men into the industry. Agriculture could not afford to divest itself of one of its attractions. One farmer said that two of his men now living in free cottages in a village 2½ miles away from his farm had just asked him if he could let them have cottages on the farm because of the long journey to and from work. This question will be argued about until we do get many more houses in the agricultural districts so that each man has the choice of a free house or a tied house.

Foreign Workers on the Land

THERE was more argument at Bradfield about the employment of Polish soldiers on the land. The farm-workers' unions take the line that the 160,000 Polish soldiers now maintained in this country with the promise of settlement here should not be dumped on the agricultural industry. They say that the status of farm-work is bound to suffer if foreign workers are put on the land and that British farms should be operated by British workers. This ignores the general man-power shortage and the exceptional cropping demands that still persist. In my view agriculture could conveniently and without injury absorb a proportion of these Polish soldiers and if the Government take a firm line with the trade unions, the mine-workers as well as the farm-workers, there need be no difficulty about these Poles finding suitable employment.

Feeding Straw

IN the northern counties many farmers have very little good hay from this year's crops. A dry spell through the spring and early summer checked the growth of grass and the cut of hay was light. Fuller crops were cut in the south and south-west and there may be some surplus that can be sent north. But in these days transport charges would put the hay at £10-£12 a ton delivered on the farm, and that seems a fantastic figure. Moreover, most of the farmers who have got ample hay of good quality will need it for their own cattle during this winter when the supply of concentrated feeding-stuffs for dairy cows has been reduced and other cattle qualify for no rations. All round more use will have to be made of straw. Everyone knows that oat straw has the highest feeding value. 1 lb. of oat straw given with 2 lb. of marrow-stem kale is as good as 1 lb. of average meadow hay. This can be put up as a chaff mixture. Barley has higher feeding value than wheat straw, which is the least palatable.

Sweetening with Molasses

THE haulms of peas, beans and vetches are superior to cereal straws but not so digestible as oat straw. These haulms are best fed along with good hay or silage. The straw from rye, buckwheat and linseed is not suitable for feeding. The palatability of cereal straw can be improved by feeding with molasses. Farmers can now get from the agricultural committees coupons entitling them to buy molasses for feeding with straw to fattening cattle as well as dairy cows and young stock, if they are short of hay. As much of the oat and barley straw was damaged in harvesting and will not make sweet fodder that cattle will readily eat, the use of molasses will help. It does not add much to the feeding value, but it does get cattle started on fodder that they really need but which they will not clear up without some dressing to give it savour.

CINCINNATUS.

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FUTURE OF DEVONSHIRE HOUSE

ANOTHER chapter in the eventful history of Devonshire House, Piccadilly, is about to open. Odeon Theatres, Limited, propose to adapt the premises as their headquarters. The first house on the site was that built in 1665 by Lord Berkeley of Stratton, and the architect was Hugh May, mentioned by both Pepys and Evelyn in their *Diaries*. It commanded, said a contemporary writer, "a beautiful vista to Hampstead and the adjacent country." In 1684 the widow of Lord Berkeley granted a building lease of part of the land, as (as Evelyn recorded) "neere £1,000 per annum in mere ground rents." In 1697 the Marquis of Normanby and the Duke of Devonshire made offers for the land, and a dispute as to which of them had really qualified as purchaser was settled by the Courts in favour of the Duke. In 1733 the house designed by Hugh May was destroyed by fire. William Kent was retained as architect of the new mansion, and received a fee of £1,000 for his work, which was put in hand at once. The chief architectural feature afterwards added was the semi-circular building to contain the grand staircase.

AN EXPERIMENT IN TENURE
WHEN Devonshire House was sold 25 years ago no time was lost in preparing for the erection of the gigantic structure now on the site, and in 1925-26 Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley were able to begin letting the flats. There is no need to say more about the tenancies they offered than that a novel principle was adopted, namely, the sale outright of 99-year leases at stated premiums and a small ground rent. Claiming that this system would work out to a tenant's advantage to the extent of fully one-third, an example was given: "premium of £10,100 at say 5 per cent. £505, ground rent £125, together £630 per annum, a saving of £318 a year on an average flat the cost of which under the ordinary rental principle would be £948 per annum." There was no lack of tenants, and a long and prosperous continuance as flats could have been counted upon, but for the effects of the war. Now a new use is being found for the premises; and like many another great block of flats they will be offices.

£300,000 SALE OF A KNIGHTSBRIDGE SITE

THE executors of Mr. E. L. Payton have sold the freehold site of an acre and a half in Knightsbridge for £300,000. The buyer was Sir John McTaggart. Mr. W. H. H. Carpenter (Messrs. H. E. Foster and Cranfield) conducted the auction. The site has a frontage of over 400 feet to Knightsbridge at a point facing Sloane Street, and it abuts for 377 feet on Hyde Park. The sale is one of the most important of its kind in recent years.

CITY RENTALS AND GROUND RENTS

A SIDELIGHT on the capital value of City property is afforded by a couple of current transactions. Incidentally it illustrates the loss that is at present being suffered by City Companies and a host of private owners owing to the delay in rebuilding in "the square mile." The modern block of offices known as Lloyds Bank Buildings in Moorgate and Coleman Street was built in 1930. They are held on a lease expiring in the year 2035 at a ground rent of £10,000 a year. The lettable floor space is just over 78,000 square feet, and the tenant's include the City Corporation, the Commissioners of Works, Lloyds

Bank and two commercial concerns. The rentals amount to a gross sum of £43,279 a year, and the outgoings during the year ended March 31 last were £21,598. The valuation of the leasehold as at March 31, 1936, adding the additional expenditure up to March 31 last, was made by Messrs. Jones, Lang, Wootton and Co., and amounts to £378,488. A building society has a first mortgage on the property, carrying interest at the rate of 5 per cent. a year until January, 1949. Thereafter the interest will be at the same rate or 1½ per cent. above Bank Rate (whichever is the higher, but not to exceed a maximum of 6 per cent.). On punctual payment this interest is reducible by 1 per cent. a year. Repayment is fixed at £1,000 a year, and it is provided that the principal sum will not be called in for a period of ten years from July last. The average annual net profits for the three years ended last March were £11,540 after charging National Defence Contribution.

Another City leasehold is an example of prevailing values. No. 52, Cornhill, close to the Royal Exchange. The lease, for 82 years unexpired, has just changed hands for nearly £100,000. The premises, built in 1931, contain 16,000 square feet of floor space on eight floors.

CITY PROPERTY IN THE WEST END

ALTHOUGH called a Corporation leasehold many a hereditament is in the West End, and its association with the City of London arises from the mediæval enterprise of the City in providing itself with a supply of water from the then rural area between what are now Oxford Street, Piccadilly and Regent Street. This year there has been above the average number of these Corporation leaseholds put into the market, and they have as usual been eagerly bought. The intricacies of the tenure of West End property by way of lease from the Corporation are very curious, and that the City still owns the Conduit Mead estate, as it is called, seems due rather to fortunate happenings than to a sustained policy of ownership. The ground rents derived by the Corporation have been incredibly low, but by a system of "fines on renewal" the yield has been brought more nearly into accord with present ideas. Under the Law of Property Act the leases have become definite in duration, the term being 2,000 years, instead of the former tenure in perpetuity subject to a formal renewal every few years. One of these leaseholds, in New Bond Street, having 1,975 years unexpired, was to have been submitted this month, but the auction has had to be deferred in consequence of the service of a "dangerous structure" notice in respect of damage caused by a fire.

Suburban property in South and West London has realised £101,450 under the hammer of Mr. A. W. Turner (Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons).

DISPOSAL OF HICKLETON HALL

LORD HALIFAX has disposed of Hickleton Hall, near Doncaster, for use as a school. He says that he has reluctantly come to the conclusion that he cannot go on occupying the mansion, but that he is keeping the rest of the estate, and intends to live in a cottage at Hickleton until the stables are converted into a dwelling. By disposing of the Hall he hopes to ensure that it will be properly maintained and not allowed to become a ruin.

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The AFTERNOON DRESS CHANGES

(Left)
Bianca Mosca's smooth wool in fuchsia with bell sleeves, slanting seams on the skirt and a double hem.

(Right)
Elegant black crêpe with petal skirt, cowl drapery and three-quarter sleeves. Note the new length of the skirt. Victor Stiebel at Jacqmar.



THE line has changed violently in many directions this season, most of all perhaps in the formal short-skirted dresses for parties, weddings, dinners and theatres. The new styles are intensely feminine, the dresses completely different from the tailored styles shown for morning and street wear. Many of them look simple, but it is the deceptive simplicity which hides an intricacy of cut that makes them difficult to copy; many are elaborately trimmed, embroidered, swathed and draped, with spiral working on the skirts, sloping shoulders. Kimono and dolman armholes, fichu and cowl tops, balloon sleeves, wrap-around skirts give the top-heavy pyramid silhouette of the picture postcard era of the Gaiety Girl to many of them. A typical silhouette is Bianca Mosca's velvet with the broad-shouldered look obtained by a wide fichu collar that drapes over short, stiffened, padded sleeves, and a tight, wrap-around skirt which is draped up in a spiral line from the hem under the right arm up to the left hip.

On everything—tight skirts, ballet skirts, wide, gored skirts—the waist is tiny, trim, clearly defined. And you will notice how the skirt has dropped until in some cases it only skims the ankle by a few inches, and is longer on every dress.

Necklines are plain and close to the throat with draped or cowl effects below, or scooped out so low that they become real evening décolletés. Then they have puffed sleeves and often gathered bands

running across the tight Victorian bodices. Slim skirts are elaborately draped and wrapped around on to one hip, or a seam spirals round the figure until one loses sight of it and the dress fastens right over to one side with a cascade of drapery. Straight tight tubes of skirts are nicked at the hemline to allow one to walk—they need to be. Stiebel's tulip skirt that we have illustrated shows the new length and a very charming way of breaking the line of a tubular skirt. He cuts his skirt in carving petal shapes and arranges them one over the other. The elegant tops are draped across the chest, back or front, or across to one side, and he makes these black dresses in one of the wonderful heavy matt rayons. Gored skirts—and there are numbers of them in silks and in woollens—give a fluid graceful silhouette that is in great contrast to the others. Often the hemline is touched with sparkling embroidery, a fold of velvet, or a subtle dressmaker detail.

The dresses are in pure silk, in rayons, fine wool. It is pleasant to see the sheen and pile of real silk-velvet again, to hear the rustle of taffeta and learn that a little is being made here as a beginning. The stiff satins in pure silk give a wonderful crisp silhouette, have the surface of polished

Lavender grey velours coat with seams running over the shoulders and ending in a buttoned tab. Spectator.

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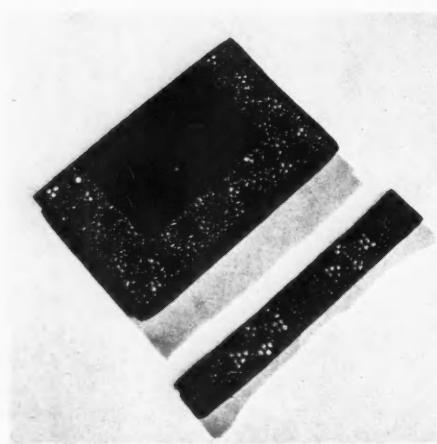
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lustre. Rayons are in immense variety; magnificent poufts, taffetas and moirés make a series of gorgeous frocks with jutting peplums, draped skirts, puffed and folded sleeves. These stiff fabrics also make some of the most ravishing dresses of the winter with full ballet-length skirts, intended for young girls' dance frocks. The skirts are pleated as fully as they possibly can be to a tight deep waistband. Usually, there is a low dipping, round or boat-shaped décolleté and a Victorian puffed sleeve to the bodice. When the bodice is transparent, as it often is, it is worn over a black taffeta camisole such as Strassner make for their black poult with its full spot net top, and rose and velvet coronet. Sometimes, these dresses have wide gored and draped skirts over slim taffeta petticoats that are edged with a pleated frill and decorated with

a red rose or two that shows as the maiden dances.

THE svelte soot black wool dresses decorated with these gleaming rayon fabrics are outstanding for elegance of design. Black tubular wool frocks will be banded all over with a lattice of black taffeta, or black velvet is used to make whole sections of the dress, the front of a jumper, or hemline and yokes, and the velvet is then embroidered with glittering jet or pastel sequins. For the elegant draped pillars of frocks there are heavy rayon jerseys, pliable matt rayon crépes and fine crépe woollens in endless variety. A novelty is the wool crépe with satin backing, so that one gets the best of both worlds, warmth as well as the satin back next the skin. Wool jersey is being woven in fine weights so that it can be draped and folded without being too bulky.

The colours in which these frocks are shown, and in which they are being bought, are unorthodox, or the completely orthodox black which is still the most popular choice with coupons to contend with. There are various odd and unusual tones of prune and mole, a greenish grey, and a violet that is unexpectedly brilliant with a lot of red in it and a great favourite in Paris. There is also a faded violet that is wonderful with grey and with black. Reds tend to be lacquer red or scarlet and away from the cherry tones, though both Stiebel and Mosca show a glowing fuchsia which has a lot of blue in it. Bronze browns are charming; so is a mushroom pink, a Matrix blue and the stone colour that everybody is showing and everybody calls by a different name. This is a warm shade, not the old-fashioned beige, almost the tone of blanched almonds when it is at its palest—wonderful with black, wonderful under mink and with most furs.

The lavender-grey of French buttoned

kid gloves is another unusual neutral featured for this winter's town coats and dresses, a colour that is a splendid foil for dark furs, skunk or kolinsky jackets, muffs and hats. It is smartest as a velours topcoat over one of the subtle, draped crépe dresses with wide armholes, low necklines and tight-wrap-around skirts that are easily the most sophisticated styles that have been seen for years. A grey-blue tweed flecked with brown like a plover's egg is shown for a travel coat by Busvine which has the waisted look achieved by double seams that curve from the shoulderbone to the waist and out again to the hem.

The winter clothes require a lot of wearing, but they have an elegance of line and a finish that make one feel really well turned out again. Hats, bags and gloves are designed to complement the design once more and the fully fashioned sheer nylons of Wolsey are coming into the shops before Christmas to give the finishing touch.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.

Ankle strap slippers studded in gold. Raynes.



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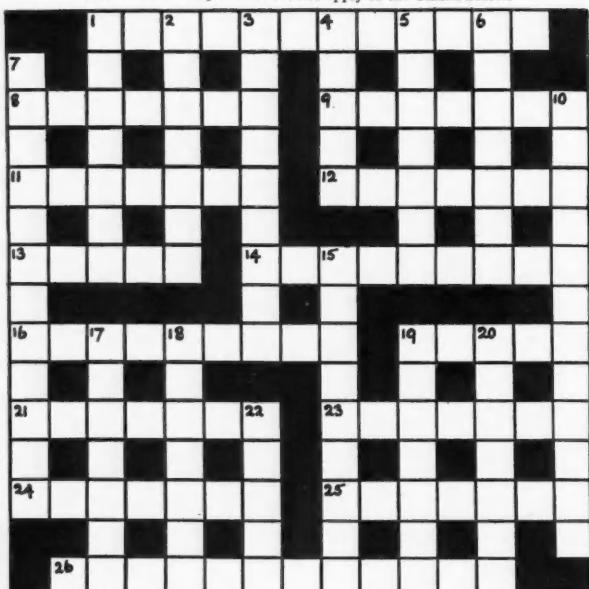
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CROSSWORD No. 875

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 875, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on Thursday, November 7, 1946.

Note.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



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(Mr., Mrs., etc.)

Address

SOLUTION TO No. 874. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of October 25, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1 and 4, Company manners; 9, Watersplash; 11 and 12, Grey suit; 13, Gleaner; 15, Serene; 16, Permit; 19, Untrod; 20, Orient; 23, Howled; 26, Member; 27, Dustman; 28 and 30, Holy writ; 31, Leatherhead; 32 and 33, Plenary session.

DOWN.—1, Congest; 2, Play; 3, Needle; 5, Asleep; 6, Ness; 7, Statute; 8, Assam; 9, Wearing well; 10, Humming-bird; 13, Gleaner; 14, Regime; 17 and 18, Odd job; 21, The hump; 22, Oration; 24, Duster; 25, Otter; 26, Mashie; 29, Year; 30, Ways.

ACROSS

1. Gee! no drink! (7, 5)
8. Finished, understand? But take a good look (7)
9. I'm clear (anagr.) (7)
11. He makes his exits but not his entrances (7)
12. "Oft in the stilly night,
Ere —'s chain has bound me" —Moore (7)
13. + X (5)
14. It sounds as though its Kentish parishioners must find it hard to find (9)
16. Absorbed indeed (9)
19. "The barge she —, like a burnished throne,
Burned on the water"—Shakespeare (3, 2)
21. Meat can be, or dates, for a change (7)
23. They will wet, not soil (7)
24. One letter, two animals, all so snappy (7)
25. Brothers at the oracle? (7)
26. Colour and scent are her offerings (12)

DOWN

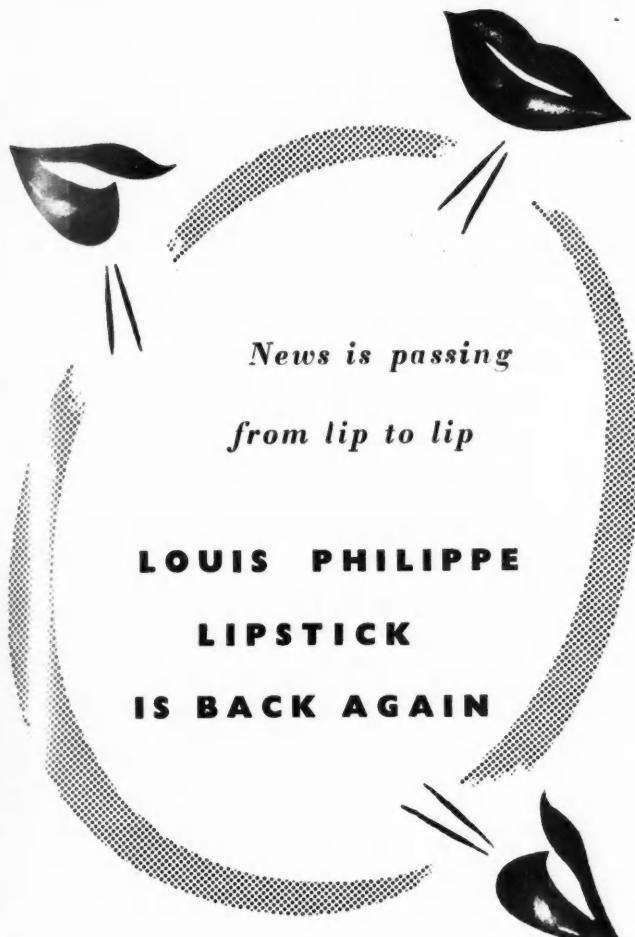
1. Its mallet is missing (7)
2. A draping of stone (7)
3. What a ruthless horseman does, a confused river does (9)
4. Sounds like food for the tribe (5)
5. Anything but graceful (7)
6. Using all fours to climb (7)
7. The summit of a forester's ambition? (3, 2, 3, 4)
10. Female trader (8, 4)
15. The years between (6, 3)
17. The stare that freezes (7)
18. What the bigger boys do to their little school fellows (7)
19. The family that learned good deportment (7)
20. Report back. But there is nothing in it (7)
22. Object (5)

The winner of Crossword No. 874 is
Miss E. Adderley,

8, St. Minver Road,
Bedford.

JOSÉ RAMIREZ SHERRY
BODEGAS:
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Photograph by Wilfred Newson

The present graces the past, when lovely Margaret Lockwood slips into a crinoline for her role in Two Cities' Film "Hungry Hill" made recently at Denham. Clarks, who set shoe fashions as long ago as 1825, took a trip into their past and made period boots and shoes especially for this production.

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